

MINNEAPOLIS NEIGHBORHOOD REVITALIZATION PROGRAM

**NOKOMIS EAST
NEIGHBORHOOD
ACTION PLAN**

Date Adopted by the Policy Board: November 23, 1998

Date Adopted by the City Council: December 18, 1998

Document Number: 98-330M

NOKOMIS EAST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



Neighborhood Revitalization Program

FULL PLAN

The Nokomis East Full Plan was ratified with more than 87% support from 651 people who voted.

■ RATIFICATION TOWN MEETING

*50 people chose to cast their vote at the
October 1st Town Meeting.*

- 46 voted to pass the plan
- 4 voted against the plan

■ ABSENTEE BALLOTS

*The Full Plan was mailed to every
household, business, and landlord, along with an
absentee ballot. 601 people voted on the plan by
absentee ballot:*

- 524 voted to pass the plan
- 74 voted against the plan
- 3 ballots were spoiled

■ TOTAL VOTES CAST

- 570 votes to pass the plan [87.55%]
- 78 votes against the plan [11.98%]
- 3 spoiled ballots [.59%]

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FULL PLAN ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This Neighborhood keeps on going!

While First Step projects were still being implemented, planning for our Full Plan began in earnest. Now a "seasoned" planning group added new members and once again, went about the business of soliciting neighborhood input and designing projects for neighborhood improvements. It's appropriate to acknowledge these dedicated people. Their names are listed below. We also wish to thank all the neighborhood residents who attended meetings, filled out surveys, asked questions and told us what they desired. We needed all of you to create this plan and fulfill your vision for Nokomis East.

NRP Steering Committee Members: Medaria Aradondo * Kathi Balaban * Shane Bastien * Vicki Bonk * Anita DaHinten * John Darlington * Gretchen Dokken-Hellie * Journey Gosselin * Brian Larson * Curt Larson * Barbara Olson * John Petek * Anthony Riesberg * Tracy Treanor * Mark Thosen * **NENA Board Members:** Greg Bastien * Martin Conroy * Gretchen Dokken-Hellie * Barbara Gudmunson * George Jelatis * Paul Kewitsch * Barbara Koch Smith * Dave Linder * Lisa Lundberg * Michael Nosser * Keith Olsen * Ray Olson * John Petek * Dave Schmidt * Geno Shold * Dick Streitz * Marian Streitz * **Economic Development Task Force:** John Anderson * Dabney Bradley * Gretchen Dokken-Hellie * Marcy Gorlinsky * Jeanne LaBore * Earl Netwal * Robin Odgers * David Green * Mark Thosen * Mike Cramer * **Environmental Task Force:** Vicki Bonk * Joe Berns * Mike Cramer * Cyndy Darby * John Elward * Chris Kirkwood * Jeanne LaBore * Diana Larsen * Joan Lawless * Cheryl Luger * Dave Schmidt * Russell Schroedl * Doris Williams * **Housing Task Force:** George Curtis * Journey Gosselin * Ron Grothe * Cynthia Hanson * Todd Hunt * Kristine Johnson * Peder Jothen, PPL * Doug Kveene * Nick Kakos * Bill Koncak * Brian Larson * Curt Patak * Barbara Vincent, MCDA * Mike Nagengast * **People Services Task Force:** Nancy Arieta * Greg Beyer * Anita DaHinten * Tina Fair * Terri Ann Flynn * Jo Fontaine * Don Genereux * Elana Gravitz * Jan Hatling * Polly Harrison * Patty Kendall * Dana Larson * Dave Linder * John Petek * Linda Simon * Kathy Stermer * Marian Streitz * Teresa Thomas-Carroll * Ruth Thompson * Jean Wikoff * Belinda Williams * Regina Williams * **Safety/Crime Prevention Task Force:** Medaria Arradondo * Bert Boberg * Clyde Brink * Dave Clark * Mary Elzoui * Jill Fitzpatrick * Officer Erika Christensen * Lylene Lund * Jason Lundquist * Officer Gary Nelson * Ray Olson * Anthony Riesberg * Erin Spruance * Dick Streitz * Jeremy Wright * Priscilla Wright * **City Staff:** Barb Lickness * **Neighborhood Staff:** Terri Ann Flynn * Jennifer Lovaasen *

Nokomis East

Vision Statement

The Nokomis East community envisions itself well into the next century as a village with a unique blend of urban living bordered by natural park settings.

As the community grows it will seek to balance the needs of a vigorous, responsive, and diverse commercial and residential population with the needs of a healthy ecosystem featuring a variety of plants, animals, water bodies and land features.

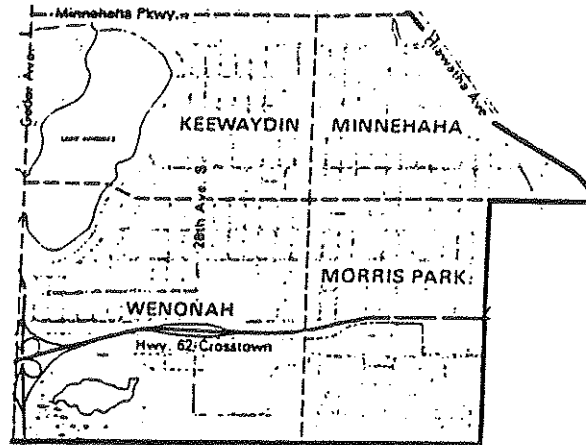
As an eco-village our community will review its history and guide its future design in a democratic manner. We are committed to creating opportunities for quality work, education, shopping, recreation, arts, cultural activities, and health and human services within reach of all residents.

We will continue to foster caring connections and build a greater sense of community among residents of all ages through the use of neighborhood centers and partnerships with those who have in common our resources and concerns.

Our community with the support of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program will preserve, protect, and improve our homes, natural amenities and neighborhoods in order to offer quality living to area residents as well as to enhance the greater Minneapolis community.

NEIGHBORHOOD PROFILE

The area of the Nokomis East neighborhood is composed of the Keewaydin, Minnehaha, Morris Park, and Wenonah neighborhoods for purposes of the Neighborhood Revitalization Program, and shall be defined as that part of the City of Minneapolis bound by Minnehaha Parkway on the north; Minnehaha Avenue on the east, including Valley View Road and Hiawatha Lane; Cedar Avenue on the west and southern boundary of the City of Minneapolis.



■ Nokomis East History and Resources

Before 1900, our neighborhood was a major American Indian Center, and until 1880 an American Indian Village was located between Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha, on the site now occupied by the Nokomis Community Center.

A history of political activism, spurred by an appreciation for natural beauty and a zeal to maintain a high standard of living, is evident in the neighborhood. Minnehaha Park, located just outside Nokomis East, played an important role in the development of the area by drawing thousands of visitors to view its natural beauty. Because of the large number of visitors to the area, rail transit and a depot were established near the neighborhood as early as 1865. In the 1920s, local residents who were concerned with the aesthetics of the Longfellow Gardens Zoo pressured Fish Jones to remove his privately owned zoo and eventually transfer the property to the Park Board. Bossen Field was developed in 1950 from the last working farm in Minneapolis.

Our main transportation corridors are the neighborhood boundaries: 34th and 28th Avenues, 50th and 54th Streets, and Crosstown Highway 62. Natural resources in a convenient urban setting are the hallmark of the Nokomis East area. Lake Nokomis, our western boundary, offers beauty and recreation for the entire metro area. On our northern boundary, the picturesque Minnehaha Parkway and Creek provide tranquil vistas and unspoiled beauty. Public transportation provides bus service to downtown, the Mall of America and the VA Hospital.

Local residents can find most of their consumer needs in the neighborhood. Our major shopping district on 34th Avenue between 50th and 54th streets is home to a U.S. Post Office, the Nokomis branch of the Minneapolis Public Library, two banks, a grocery store, and a variety of other businesses. Business also thrives in other "commercial pockets" throughout the neighborhood. We are proud of our local business association, the Nokomis Village Association, which promotes a sense of community through celebrations.

There are three K-4 Minneapolis Public Schools within our boundaries: Keewaydin, Morris Park, and Wenonah Community Schools. Three parks (Keewaydin Park, Morris Park, and Nokomis Community Center) provide programming for all age groups. Seven churches serve residents of various denominations. While a few non-profit agencies serve our residents, we do not have a major social service presence in our neighborhoods..

Our housing stock is relatively good and stable. However, as the neighborhood gentrifies, a large population of seniors on fixed incomes are unable to keep up with home maintenance and repairs. Substandard housing makes up about 6% of total housing structures and is more prevalent among non-homestead properties. We are proud of our landlords' association, the Bossen Area Rental Coalition. The majority of single-family houses were built between 1920 and 1960 with a building boom during the 1920s and 1940s. Our neighborhood developed before others due to the availability of street car routes and rail lines. Aiding in the development were the park lands along Minnehaha Falls, Minnehaha Creek and Lake Nokomis.

In the "Jet Age," residents have negotiated with the Metropolitan Airports Commission to limit noise and sound insulate properties in the neighborhood. In contrast with the urban decay surrounding airports in most large cities, our active citizens have been able to keep the neighborhood bordering the airport vibrant and attractive. Pride of ownership is evident in the lawns and gardens of even the most modest homes.

The Highway 55 Re-route, Light Rail Transit and the Airport's north - south runway are issues that will significantly impact our neighborhood. These issues have shaped the planning process of our Full Plan.

■ Nokomis East Demographics

Nokomis East is predominantly composed of owner-occupied single family homes, but has significant concentrations of multi-family rental dwellings. The table below summarizes housing distribution in each of our four neighborhoods and in the aggregate:

Housing [1990]	<u>Keewaydin</u>	<u>Minnehaha</u>	<u>Morris Park</u>	<u>Wenonah</u>	<u>Nokomis East</u>
Owner Occupied	1203	1608	1140	1288	5246
Renter Occupied	203	317	204	594	1318
Vacant	40	5	28	73	194
Total	1453	1978	1372	1955	6758

There is a wide range of real estate values, with 80% of the properties falling between \$50,000 and \$100,000. The median family income in 1989 was \$36,592, which was above the city median family income of \$32,998.

The number of Nokomis East families in 1989 below the poverty line was 6.1%. This was below the 1989 city average of 14.1%. Poverty in Nokomis East increased from 3.0% of families in 1979 to 6.1% in 1989. The poverty line in 1989 was \$12,674 for a family of four.

Nokomis East has about 15,075 residents, is predominantly European American and the table below illustrates our diversity as of the 1990 census:

Population by Ethnic Group [1990]					
	<u>Keewauwin</u>	<u>Minnchaha</u>	<u>Morris Park</u>	<u>Wenonah</u>	<u>Nokomis East</u>
European American	96.5%	94.5%	93.5%	90.1%	93.5%
African American	1.2%	2.0%	3.2%	6.3%	3.3%
American Indian	0.6%	1.6%	1.1%	1.5%	1.2%
Asian American	1.2%	1.3%	1.8%	1.4%	1.4%
Hispanic	1.0%	1.2%	2.2%	1.5%	
Total Population	3369	4334	3213	4159	15075

NRP PARTICIPATION PROCESS

The Nokomis East Neighborhood Revitalization Program began with the creation of a Steering Committee and Task Forces. From its bureaucratic roots grew an effort that involved hundreds of residents. We debated, listened and learned as we struggled to define our goals, objectives and strategies in the context of magnificent dreams and limited funds. We discovered that this process wasn't just about deciding how money is spent, it was about empowering residents to take responsibility for their neighborhood. We learned to work together as a community by joining many voices in a shared vision of Nokomis East's future.

This First Step Action Plan was the blueprint for the future of our community. The Full Plan continues this vision. Our collection of strategies work together to improve economic development, the environment, housing, people services, and safety. Individual strategies, if dissected from the interrelated whole, would not revitalize our community.

Our NRP planning process began in May 1995 and during the past three years we have developed our First Step and Full Plan with the community input described below. Also listed below are ways in which we have met the inclusion goals of our Participation Agreement:

- **Opened a community office**, with telephone and answering machine to provide a central location for small meetings and information.
- **Formed a Steering Committee** (ranging from 13-18 members) with representation from all four neighborhoods, two renters, one landlord, three persons of color, one business owner, one NENA Board member, and five Task Force expeditors. Membership reflected gender balance and age diversity. Recruitment efforts were made to encourage participation from all residents. Special outreach efforts were made to groups at risk of under-representation.
- **Created five Task Forces** with a current total of 67 active members. Economic Development, Environment, Housing, and People Services each met at least once a month. Safety/Crime Prevention was initially folded into People Services and after separating, it met monthly.
- **Adhered to a set schedule of open monthly meetings of the Steering Committee and five Task Forces:** Economic Development, Environment, Housing, People Services, and Safety/Crime Prevention. All meetings were publicized monthly in newspaper ads and the *NENA Review* newsletter.
- In December 1996, **hired a full-time executive director** responsible for internal coordination and community organizing, and a **part-time administrative director** responsible for accounting and newsletter distribution.
- In November 1997, **hired a full time community organizer**, to coordinate planning for the Full Plan. This position replaced the part-time administrative director position.
- **Published a monthly newsletter** containing NRP progress reports and meeting schedules. Newsletters were mailed to every business and household, totaling 7,000.

- **Wrote NRP updates for a monthly column** published in the *Longfellow/Nokomis Messenger*.
- **Publicized NRP events with "Herman the Billboard Cow."** Commuters and pedestrians could not miss our messages as they drove or strolled by Herman.
- **Hosted 37 Town Meetings** on timely topics related to neighborhood revitalization. Listed in parentheses are the number of residents who attended:
 - November 1994 - Introduction of the NRP (107)
 - May 1995 - Four Neighborhood Meetings to Promote NRP (120)
 - June 1995 - Election of Steering Committee (75)
 - July 1995 - Issue Identification and Creation of Task Forces (100)
 - January 1996 - Meet Local Merchants (41)
 - February 1996 - Could Remote Runways Quiet Airport Noise? (23)
 - March 1996 - NENA Board Elections (21)
 - April 1996 - Hiawatha Avenue Construction (217)
 - May 1996 - Airport Noise Insulation / Special Guest Mayor Sayles-Belton (256)
 - June 1996 - NRP Goals & Objectives (221)
 - July 1996 - Dialogue with 3rd Precinct Police Inspector Haynes (18)
 - August 1996 - Housing Trends (115) and Nokomis Days History Booth (43)
 - September 1996 - Water Quality (28)
 - October 1996 - Community Schools (38) and Candidates Forum (46)
 - November 1996 - NRP Survey Results (33)
 - December 1996 - Property Tax Reform (28)
 - January 1997 - Ratification of NRP First Step Plan (139)
 - March 1997 - NENA Board Elections (21)
 - April 1997 - Preview Spring and Summer Park Programs (34)
 - May 1997 - Teen Summit (28)
 - June 1997 - NRP Environmental Project Preview (18)
 - July 1997 - Lottery for NRP Housing Fix Up Funds (35)
 - August 1997 - National Night Out Celebration (123)
 - September 1997 - Steering Committee Election (22)
 - October 1997 - Candidates Forum (102)
 - November 1997 - \$3,600,000 NRP Kick Off (34)
 - December 1997 - Meet, Eat and Donate (18)
 - January 1998 - Better Playgrounds (35)
 - February 1998 - Juvenile Crime and Restorative Justice (65)
 - March 1998 - \$3,600,000 Vote and Board Election
 - April 1998 - Home and Lawn Spring Spruce Up (49)
 - May 1998 - Senior Issues Forum (35)
 - June 1998 Unveiling of Potential Full Plan NRP Projects (48)
 - July 1998 Graffiti and Gang Activity (42)
 - August 1998 - National Night Out Celebration (100)
 - September 1998 - Light Rail Transit (85)
 - October 1998 - Ratification of Full Plan (

- **Solicited community input via surveys and focus groups:**
 - NRP Project Survey (791 responses; 6,770 sent; 11.7% returned)
 - Housing questionnaire (321 responses)
 - Nokomis Square questionnaire (65 senior citizens responded)
 - Consumers phone poll (40 contacts)
 - Business questionnaire (24 responses; 126 sent; 19% returned)
 - Merchants focus group (10 participants)
 - Leadership Training "Pulling in Under-represented Groups" (20)
 - Bossen Focus Groups (11 contacts)
 - Lemonade Stand to promote Full Plan survey voting (25)
 - NRP Full Plan Survey (522 responses; 6,775 sent; 7.7% return)
- **Participated in external organization meetings and activities:**
 - Organized National Night Out Block Party
 - Organized Neighbors for the Olympic Torch Run
 - Organized Watershed Clean-up
 - Organized Rake-a-Thon
 - Recruited Speakers to Attend Airport Hearings
 - Attended Block Club meetings
 - Attended Ecumenical Group meetings (churches)
 - Attended Nokomis Village Association meetings (merchants)
 - Attended BARC meetings (landlords)
 - Attended Bossen Tenants Union meeting
 - Attended Minnehaha United Methodist Church Street Festival
 - Participated in St. Helena's Church Autumn Daze Parade
aboard a NENA decorated float!
 - Assisted Simmons Community Center Group (Bossen renters)
 - Member of Healthy Seniors Steering Committee
 - Member of Roosevelt Leadership Team (schools/teens)
 - Member of Keewaydin Community Partnership (schools/youth)
 - Member of FACES (Community Education advisory group)

STEERING COMMITTEE TIMELINE

May 1995

- Hosted 4 neighborhood meetings to promote Neighborhood Revitalization Program

June 1995

- Elected Steering Committee

July 1995

- Hosted initial Town Meeting to identify issues and create Task Forces

August 1995

- Appointed volunteers to Task Forces

February 1996

- Set project prioritization criteria

March 1996

- Trained Task Forces to develop goals, objectives and strategies

April 1996

- Monitored and directed Task Forces
 - Defined responsibilities, schedule and deadlines
 - Checked Task Force work for progress and non-overlap
 - Recommended methods of information gathering (government resources, focus groups, targeted questionnaires, phone surveys, door knocking, etc.)

May 1996

- Developed vision, goals and objectives
 - Wrote vision statement
 - Charged Task Forces with writing goals and objectives
 - Published goals and objectives

June 1996

- Town Meeting / Election and Appointments to Steering Committee
 - Presented goals and objectives for community to evaluate and prioritize. This narrowed the scope of projects that Task Forces needed to research and cost analyze.

June - July 1996

- Researched Projects
 - Identified projects that satisfied prioritized goals and objectives
 - Analyzed projects for cost, number of people served, and ability to utilize existing resources.

August 1996

- Task Forces submitted project ideas to Steering Committee

September 1996

- Compiled "priority survey" to rank projects for inclusion in First Step Plan

October 1996

- Conducted and tabulated survey

November 1996

- Prioritization Meeting with Task Forces
 - Task Forces estimated project costs
 - Steering Committee determined that all projects that received a "neutral" or better rating on the survey could be funded
 - Steering Committee adopted initial draft of First Step Plan

November 1996

- Town Meeting to report survey results and discuss draft of First Step Plan

December 1996

- Steering Committee adopts Final First Step Plan Report

January 1997

- Town Meeting to present and ratify Final First Step Plan
 - Drafted Final First Step Plan
 - Mailed condensed version of Final First Step Plan to every household and business with an absentee ballot enclosed
 - Tabulated votes of 139 people who attended January 16th Ratification Town Meeting despite bitter cold temperatures and minus-60 windchills: 123 votes in favor of the plan and 16 votes against it
 - Tabulated 363 absentee ballots from people unable to attend ratification meeting: 283 in favor of the plan, 77 against the plan, and 3 spoiled ballots
 - Combined town meeting votes and absentee ballots to ratify First Step Plan with nearly 81% support from 502 people who voted: 406 in favor of the plan, 93 against the plan, and 3 spoiled ballots
- Steering Committee sent Final First Step Plan to NENA Board
 - NENA Board adopted Final First Step Plan on January 23

Implementation & Planning TIMELINE

First Step Plan Approval Process:

- Neighborhood Ratification - January 16, 1997
- Management Review Team - February 24, 1997 & March 6, 1997
- Policy Board - March 24, 1997
- City Council - April 25, 1997

March 1997 - April 1997

0. Pre-Implementation
 - a. Instruct Task Forces to prioritize strategies for implementation
 - b. Divide strategies into Group I, II, and III
 - c. Develop timeline for implementation and planning
 - d. Instruct Task Forces to write scopes of service to contract each strategy
 - e. Create Implementation Team

May 1997 - October 1997

1. Begin Implementation of Group I
 - a. Steering Committee continues monthly meetings to direct implementation and approve scopes of service
 - b. Implementation Team begins meeting
 - c. Task Forces oversee progress of Implementation Team
 - d. Task Forces meet as necessary without staff support
 - e. Task Forces become volunteer force for implementation

September 1997 - October 1997

2. Town Meeting to Elect Steering Committee Members to begin serving November, 1997 through October, 1998.
3. Transition to Full Plan
 - a. Work with NENA Board to conduct search for Planning Coordinator for Full Plan
 - b. Work with NENA Board to interview and hire Planning Coordinator
 - c. Community organizing push to generate new volunteers

November 1997

4. Implementation of Group II
5. Begin Planning for Full Plan
 - a. Town Meeting
 - Review progress of First Step Plan
 - Identify First Step strategies for continuation in Full Plan
 - Identify new issues
 - Offer suggestions to revise/add new goals and objectives
 - Identify new volunteers
 - b. Task Forces resume monthly meetings with staff support

October 1997

6. Task Force Training

- a. Evaluate data - identify what we know and what we need to find out
- b. The Planning Process - developing goals, objectives and strategies
- c. Re-communicate criteria for prioritizing strategies

January 1998

7. Monitor and Direct Task Forces

- a. Define responsibilities, schedule and deadlines
- b. Check Task Force work for progress and non-overlap
- c. Recommend methods of information gathering (government resources, focus groups, targeted questionnaires, phone surveys, door knocking, etc.)

February 1998

8. Develop Goals and Objectives

- a. Direct Task Forces to review and add new goals and objectives

March 1998

9. Town Meeting

- a. Publicize town meeting and publish goals and objectives in *NENA Review*
- b. Present revised goals and objectives for community to evaluate and prioritize.
This will narrow the scope of strategies that Task Forces must research and cost analyze.

April 1998

10. Research Strategies

- a. Modify First Step strategies for continuation in Full Plan
- b. Identify new strategies that will satisfy prioritized goals and objectives
- c. Analyze strategies for cost, number of people served, and ability to utilize existing resources
- d. Develop project descriptions for each strategy

May 1998

11. Implementation of Group III

12. Complete Strategy List

- a. Task Forces will submit project descriptions for Steering Committee evaluation

June 1998

13. Compile Priority Survey

- a. Steering Committee will compile priority survey with strategies listed under the heading of goals and objectives that they satisfy. Survey responses will help prioritize strategies for NRP Full Plan funding.

14. Town Meeting

- a. Present strategy ideas

July 1998

15. Conduct Priority Survey
 - a. Print and distribute survey (week 1)
 - b. Collect and begin tabulating first 2 weeks of responses (weeks 2 & 3)
 - c. Wait another week for stragglers (week 4)

August 1998

16. Tabulate Survey Responses
17. Prioritization meeting with Task Forces
 - a. Select capital intensive strategies
 - b. Select non-capital intensive strategies

September 1998

18. Full Plan Publicity to Neighborhood
 - a. Report Task Force consensus on priorities
 - b. Draft and publish an initial Nokomis East NRP Full Plan

October 1998

19. Town Meeting to present and discuss NRP Full Plan
 - a. Consensus on strategies
 - b. Consensus on priorities
 - c. Consensus on NRP Full Plan

November 1998

20. Steering Committee adopts Final Full Plan Report and sends it to NENA Board
21. NENA Board adopts report and sends NRP Full Plan to City and report is sent back to neighborhood
22. Town Meeting / Election and Appointments to Steering Committee
 - a. Publicize town meeting/election
 - b. Present strategies

A Report to Our Neighbors...

FIRST STEP EVALUATION

NENA/NRP is proud to report that in just 17 months we are implementing 36 of our 42 First Step projects. Funding for five of the remaining six was redirected to other successful projects. Our First Step Plan was mighty ambitious in terms of the number and complexity of the projects. Unlike most neighborhoods that selected just a few projects, our plan sought to provide something for everyone. We treated the First Step as pilot projects, with the successful projects that residents liked continuing into the Full Plan.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

◆ **Commercial District Improvements**

SRF Consulting Group is working with business owners and residents to explore needs and design options for commercial area revitalization. A "shopper-friendly" streetscape plan is scheduled for completion by mid-November. This includes funds for installation of benches, planters, trash receptacles and bicycle racks.

◆ **Economic Development Advisory Committee**

A committee of four residents and two business owners was elected to oversee a small business loan program and help businesses meet residents' needs for goods and services. The committee has reviewed three loan applications and hired SRF Consulting Group to create a long-range business development plan.

◆ **Small Business Loans**

Loans of up to \$8,000 at 6% interest are available for commercial building improvements, provided the borrower comes up with a 50¢ match for every dollar borrowed. To date, \$8,000 has been loaned, \$56,800 remains.

◆ **Marketing Program for Area Businesses**

Funds were provided for a business directory, Nokomis Day entertainment and promotion, and a fax machine for use by small business owners. A Web site is in the works.

ENVIRONMENT

◆ **Naturescape**

Four acres of land linking the Nokomis Community Center hillside to the shore of Lake Nokomis was restored to a more naturalized landscape by increasing the extent and diversity of native plants. Three gardens were in full bloom this summer earning award nominations. The hillside prairie was planted with full growth expected next year. This

area now serves as an educational demonstration site for alternative lawn care by highlighting the benefits, possibilities and process of sustainable gardening.

◆ **Water Quality Study**

The Blue Water Commission was established by residents of the three neighborhoods around Lakes Nokomis and Hiawatha to recommend solutions to water quality problems identified by a \$200,000 study conducted by the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District. Ambitious but achievable recommendations were developed and mailed to every Nokomis East household. This report will be used to garner sustained support from policymakers and the public.

◆ **Tree Planting**

Keewaydin School/Park was transformed into an "urban forest" with children planting 72 new trees. As the site of the 1998 City of Minneapolis Arbor Day Celebration, this event showcased the neighborhood. With the help of a \$10,000 MnReLeaf grant, plantings were also done at Bossen Field and will be done at Wenonah School.

◆ **Tree Education Clinics**

Twenty residents graduated from a two-day tree clinic after learning how to select the right tree for their lawn and how to plant and care for it. Grant funds provided 12 graduates with a \$200 tree from Minnehaha Nursery. Funds remain to sponsor a second tree clinic, this time post-storm damage.

◆ **Water Quality Brochure**

A Clean Water Partnership brochure was customized for Nokomis East and sent to every household (7,000). The brochure increased public awareness about (1) what substances pollute Lake Nokomis, Minnehaha Creek and the Mississippi River; (2) how harmful substances get washed into the storm sewer system and drain into nearby water bodies; and (3) which lawn care and car practices are safe for the environment.

◆ **Storm Drain Stenciling**

Fifty volunteers stenciled 135 storm sewer drains to identify the water body that receives direct runoff from the drain. This public awareness campaign discouraged dumping of harmful substances that drain into and pollute the surface water in Lake Nokomis, Minnehaha Creek and the Mississippi River. Stenciling will begin again in Spring, 1999.

◆ **"Green Page" in *NENA Review***

Four issues of the *NENA Review* were expanded to include a "green page" featuring environmental education articles about the impact homeowners have on water quality via use of fertilizers and disposal of household chemicals and lawn and garden refuse.

◆ **Community Gardening**

Residents rejected a proposal to lease land from the Metropolitan Airports Commission for a community garden at 58th Street between 21st and 22nd Avenues. Alternatively, grow labs were purchased for Morris Park and Wenonah Community Schools. Children grew their own salads. They grew flowers from seeds and transplanted them in neighborhood yards.

◆ **Transportation Study**

Hiawatha reconstruction and light rail will introduce new challenges for controlling the negative impacts of transportation. With that in mind, a study was completed and a summary of recommendations will be sent to every household (7,000). The study

examined ways to reduce the negative impacts of transportation on the environment, pedestrians and bicyclists. It also documented demographic traffic patterns, parking issues and steps that can be taken to enhance the growth of alternative modes of transportation.

HOUSING

◆ Low-Interest Home Improvement Loans

Principal = \$361,600.
 Committed = \$217,700.96
 Uncommitted = \$143,899.04
 113 Loans Available
 47 Projects Completed
 39 Applicants have yet to finalize bids
 24 Withdrawn

◆ Deferred Matching Loans

Initial Principal = \$41,790
 Redirected Principal = \$8,000
 Total Principal = \$49,790
 Committed = \$22,458
 Uncommitted = \$27,332
 25 Loans Available
 19 Participants
 12 Projects Completed
 7 Applicants have yet to finalize loan

◆ Deferred Loans

Initial Principal = \$62,825
 Redirected Principal = \$12,000
 Total Principal = \$74,825
 Committed = \$54,066
 Uncommitted = \$20,759
 20 Loans Available
 17 Participants
 12 Projects Completed
 5 Applicants have yet to finalize loan

◆ Deferred Loans to Augment Sound Insulation

Principal = \$33,445
 Committed = \$16,050.29
 Uncommitted = \$17,394.71

◆ Emergency Repair Grants

Initial Principal = \$33,445
 Redirected to Deferred and Deferred Matching Loans = \$22,800
 Principal = \$10,645
 Committed = \$515.50
 Uncommitted = \$10,129.50

◆ **Principal Reduction Grants for Rental Rehab**

Principal = \$38,200

Committed = \$5,000

Uncommitted = \$33,200

◆ **Demolition Fund for Condemned Properties**

Properties that are abandoned and unlivable are an eyesore and can attract criminal activity and make adjacent properties vulnerable. The City of Minneapolis will not demolish hazardous/boarded properties without neighborhoods paying half the cost of demolition. NENA/NRP set aside \$27,532 to match. NENA has authorized use of matching funds to demolish one property (5841 28th Avenue South).

◆ **Architectural Plans**

Many of the houses in Nokomis East are too small for a growing family. By November, an architect will have completed renovation and expansion plans to lower the cost of, and thus encourage, renovation – particularly the expansion of a house through expansion.

◆ **Housing Resource Library**

NENA/NRP funds were used to purchase a collection of books, videos and CD-ROMs to help the “do-it-yourself” handyperson with home maintenance, repairs and remodeling. The collection is currently available at Nokomis Public Library.

◆ **Welcome Wagon Packets**

300 “welcome wagon” packets were assembled to enable new residents to make use of all our community resources. 280 have already been distributed. Packets include information about how to get involved in neighborhood activities such as NENA, Block Clubs, and McGruff Houses. They also include park program schedules, bus schedules, voter registration cards, home improvement loan information, crime statistics, recycling information, lists of local businesses and schools and churches plus resource telephone numbers and much more!

◆ **Gateway Blight Cleanup**

This is the only project that remains to be implemented. Funds were to be used to study the feasibility of enhancement options, particularly off Crosstown Hwy. 62 at 34th and 28th Avenues. It also included funds to post neighborhood identification signs at selected gateways.

PEOPLE SERVICES

◆ **Healthy Seniors**

NENA/NRP funding enabled the Healthy Seniors Project to provide more nursing, home health aid and volunteer services to seniors and persons with disabilities so that they could continue living safely and independently at home. Initially, \$9,900 was granted. After demonstrated success, an additional \$4,500 was redirected to Healthy Seniors, bringing the total to \$14,400.

◆ **After-School Youth Involvement Program**

42 youth (ages 10-14) have enjoyed year-round recreational, educational and community service activities provided by Hiawatha YMCA staff. Gym and computer lab activities were held at Minnehaha United Methodist Church. Arts and crafts activities were held at St. James Episcopal. Exciting field trips were planned for school release days. Youth Centers were open during hours when working parents could not provide supervision for their kids.

◆ **Parenting Classes**

Early Childhood Family Education was unable to offer classes in Nokomis East until Winter 1998. NENA/NRP responded by hiring a family educator from Family & Children's Service to teach free classes locally. We held focus groups with interested parents and developed a curriculum tailored to their needs. Working parents expressed a need for evening classes and child care. Thirty six parents enrolled, with child care provided to 36 infants/toddlers. Evaluations reported overwhelming satisfaction. Space was provided by Minnehaha United Methodist Church which offered parents pre-class dinner for just \$6 per family!

◆ **Computer Lab at Keewaydin School**

27 computers were purchased for Keewaydin Community School for interactive computer-assisted reading and math instruction for special education and Limited English Proficiency students. Entire classrooms are now able to have computer time every school day, with practice and drills for advanced students. Keewaydin hopes to provide computer-assisted instruction for neighborhood residents seeking adult literacy and G.E.D. preparation.

◆ **HandyWorks**

NENA/NRP funding enabled Longfellow HandyWorks to provide additional household chore and home maintenance services to seniors and persons with disabilities so that they could continue living safely and independently at home. Funds were used for chore service subsidies, staff time and outreach. HandyWorks also upgraded the quality of the service they provide by purchasing office equipment necessary to handle the volume of work done by staff and volunteers.

◆ **Community History Art Project with Youth and Elders**

A public artist was hired to bring neighborhood youth and elders together to conceptualize and create an art project that would display the history of Nokomis East. They envisioned an arch adorned in historical photographs and snapshots taken by the youth. The project came to be called "Tracing Memory: A Public Archway." Materials have been collected and the arch will soon be built for a Spring 1999 dedication at Lake Nokomis. Twenty seniors and seven youth participated. Youth received stipends. Three grants were secured to augment NENA/NRP funding.

◆ **Bossen Youth Program**

25 youth (ages 9-17) from the Bossen/Nokomis East community were provided with opportunities to spend their free time constructively and make positive contributions to their community. This program promoted positive relationships, methods of peaceful conflict resolution and cultural awareness. Programming was supervised by Family & Children's Service.

◆ **Support Workers for Wenonah School**

Wenonah School had only one male teacher. Many of the pupils live in single-parent households headed by a mother. Parents, students and school staff identified a need to bring male role models into the school. In response to this, NENA/NRP funds are being used this Fall to hire and train male educational assistants to tutor children to read.

◆ **Feasibility Study of Community Center in Wenonah Neighborhood**

Without expending funds, we explored whether land and non-NRP funding exists to erect a Wenonah Community Center. The answer was a disappointing "NO!" City Planning and the Minneapolis School and Park & Recreation Boards suggested that NENA/NRP work with them to provide additional programming to meet the needs of Wenonah residents. Results were quick, as the Phat Summer program already moved to Wenonah School. Funds for this study were redirected to Healthy Seniors (\$4,500) and the Community History Art Project (\$4,500).

SAFETY

◆ **Police Athletic League Youth Teams**

By sponsoring Police Athletic League youth teams we were able to ensure a safer community by expanding our relationship with law enforcement while increasing recreational opportunities for youth ages 8-12. NENA/NRP funds enabled us hire civilian coaches to assist the police officer coaches. Uniforms, transportation and participation fees were covered by NENA/NRP. We offered two seasons of baseball, softball and volleyball. There were 123 players (some duplicated).

◆ **Substation**

Police Explorers donated their labor to completely renovate space for a substation at 4953 30th Avenue South. A Grand Opening Celebration was held on National Night Out to encourage residents to use and volunteer at the substation. The goal of the substation is to bring residents together to build working relationships with Minneapolis police, CCP/SAFE teams and housing inspectors. The substation will be a place where for the listed agencies to exchange information, coordinate events, stop for phone calls, and complete reports. Currently, we are waiting for the 3rd Precinct to install a lock for which all Minneapolis police officers have the key. We are also developing training materials for substation volunteers.

◆ **Citizens Patrol**

Neighborhood residents are being recruited to volunteer for a "strolling patrol" that will deter crime with its visible presence and by serving as additional eyes for the police. The citizens patrol will office out of the substation. NENA/NRP funds will be used for uniforms and equipment. Citizen patrols will be armed only with cellular phones to report crimes and suspicious activity via 911. Patrolling is non-confrontational. Background checks and training will begin as soon as we have 12 volunteers.

◆ **Police Buy-Back Beat**

NENA/NRP funds (\$3,520) were used to provide 90 additional hours of police coverage with 25 ride-along passengers. There were 20 four-hour shifts and 2 five-hour shifts from

April 1, 1998 through September 16, 1998. We hired police officers familiar with Nokomis East because they either live or work here. Passengers were able to share their observations and identify problem areas for the officers. Many arrests and traffic citations were made.

◆ **Increasing Participation in Block Clubs & McGruff Houses**

There are 172 established block clubs in Nokomis East's four neighborhoods, with nearly 35% of our blocks unorganized. An incentive program is now in place through which NENA/NRP funds will provide free home security hardware (strike plates, double cylinder deadbolt locks, keyed locks for windows, hasps, padlocks, basement bars and motion detector lights) to folks who complete block leader training. In addition, a recognition event was held to re-energize block club leaders. Inactive block clubs learned from the success stories of active block clubs. In partnership with CCP/SAFE, we are working to enlist at least 25 new block clubs and safe-houses for children.

◆ **Safety Workshops**

\$1,080 allocated to this project was redirected to Increasing Participation in Block Clubs and McGruff Houses. Five safety workshops were held in Nokomis East [Personal Safety (4-29-97), Home Security (5-28-97), Automobile Security (9-25-97), Personal Safety for Seniors (10-7-97) and Graffiti/Gang Activity (7-9-98)]. The budget for safety workshops was to be used for advertising that would draw a larger audience to workshops. NENA found free and more effective ways of publicizing; specifically, the NENA column in the *Messenger* and flyer distribution.

◆ **911 Tours**

\$900 allocated to this project was redirected to the Police Buy-Back Beat. The Safety Task Force determined that tours of 911 could be done free.

◆ **Phone Tree**

\$370 allocated to this project was redirected to the Police Buy-Back Beat. The Safety Task Force determined that misinformation was likely to be communicated as messages passed down a phone tree.

◆ **Installation of Traffic Calming Devices**

\$360 allocated to this project was redirected to Increasing Participation in Block Clubs and McGruff Houses. The Safety Task Force determined that \$360 was insufficient to install any device that would effectively calm traffic with fairness to the residents of the many geographic areas requesting them.

SAFETY / CRIME PREVENTION

FIRST STEP STRATEGIES

Total: \$23,940

Increase Participation in Block Clubs and McGruff Houses (\$900)

+ \$1,440 Plan Mod. #3

Establish Phone Tree (\$900)

- \$370 Plan Mod. #1

Sponsor Police Athletic League Youth Teams (\$4050)

Establish Community Substation (\$4,500)

Sponsor Safety Workshops (\$1,080)

- \$1080 Plan Mod. #3

Form and Outfit Citizens Patrol (\$9,000)

Organize Tours of 911 (\$900)

-\$900 Plan Mod. #1

Install Traffic Calming Devices (\$360)

-\$360 Plan Mod. #3

Hire Off-Duty Police (\$2,250)

+ \$1,270 Plan Mod. #1

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN STRATEGIES

NAP Total: \$144,500

Continue the Police Substation and Citizens Patrol (\$70,000)

Community Response to Neighborhood Concerns (\$74,500)

■ OVERVIEW

Safety is one of the most important livability issues for Nokomis East residents. Nokomis East suffers mostly from crimes against property: burglaries, garage break-ins, car thefts, for example. Our research shows that residents have a perception of danger that is not corroborated by crime statistics. Although Nokomis East is relatively safe, we do not take this perception of danger lightly. We will address the perception and reality of crime on three fronts. First, by empowering people to prevent crime and by organizing neighbors to watch out for neighbors. Second, by expanding our relationships with public safety officials. Third, by collaborating with community programs and agencies to develop strategies and implement programs that address identified problems and seek their resolution.

GOAL #1: IMPROVE AND ENSURE A SAFE COMMUNITY

■ OBJECTIVE #1: TO INCREASE BLOCK CLUB PARTICIPATION

- **Strategy #1: RECRUIT NEW BLOCK CLUBS AND MCGRUFF HOUSES AND RE- ENERGIZE INACTIVE BLOCK CLUBS. (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Block clubs have been instrumental in reducing crime in Nokomis East. There are 172 established block clubs in Nokomis East's four neighborhoods: Keewaydin (57), Minnehaha (59), Morris Park (20), and Wenonah (36). Many blocks are without clubs and others need to be re-energized because they had inactive block club leaders and/or did not hold meetings.

How:

In partnership with CCP/SAFE, we continue to work toward establishing a block club on every block, identifying at least 25 new block clubs and securing more safe-houses for children. During Spring/Summer '97/98, we recruited volunteers to door-knock and flyer unorganized blocks. Special attention was devoted to establishing "building clubs" for apartment buildings in the Bossen area where rental property is concentrated. We have encouraged existing block clubs to get involved with the neighborhood association and broaden their scope to include community issues beyond topics related only to crime and safety. An incentive is now in place through which NRP funds are providing free home security hardware (strike plates, double cylinder deadbolt locks, keyed locks for windows, hasps, padlocks, basement bars and motion detector lights) to folks who complete block club leader training. In addition, a recognition event was held to re-energize block club leaders.

Partners: CCP/SAFE

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$2,340 (\$900/First Step) +(\$1,440 Plan Mod. #3)

Contract Manager: CCP/SAFE changed to NRP

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

Plan Modification #3: dated June 1, 1998 moved \$1,080 from Safety, Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 3, (Sponsoring Safety Workshops - pg. 13) and \$360 from Safety, Goal 1, Objective 3, Strategy 1, (Install Traffic Calming Devices - pg. 15) to Safety, Goal 1, Objective 1, Strategy 1 (Recruit New Block Clubs and McGruff Houses - pg. 11) This modification allowed Nokomis East to provide security hardware to residents and sponsor a recognition event for block club leaders.

• **Strategy #2: ESTABLISH PHONE TREE (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Reduce crime by creating a rapid-response communication network to alert residents about criminal activity and prevention methods.

How:

Our phone tree will enlist block club leaders to get messages out by multiplier effect – I call five of my neighbors, then each of them call five of their neighbors. Before long, every block could be on alert when, for example, a rapist or car thief has been active in the neighborhood. NRP funds will provide staff and computer resources for data-basing, publicity, and recruitment. CCP/SAFE will provide us with information to disseminate. Our phone tree will make block clubs more effective.

Partners: CCP/SAFE

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$530 (\$900 First Step) - (\$370 Plan Mod. #1)

Contract Manager: CCP/SAFE

First Step Implementation Status: Not contracted/Under development

Plan Modification #1: dated 4/1/98. Moved \$900 from Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 5 (Safety, Organize Tours of 911, pg. 15) and \$370 from Goal, Objective 1, Strategy 2 (Safety, Establish Phone Tree, pg. 11) to Goal 1, objective 3, Strategy 2 (Safety, Hire Off-Duty police, pg. 16). The redirection was requested so that Nokomis East could match the hourly rate and maintain the number of patrol hours developed in the scope of services.

■ **OBJECTIVE #2:** **TO REDUCE CRIME AND EXPAND OUR
RELATIONSHIP WITH PUBLIC SAFETY
OFFICIALS**

• **Strategy #1:** **SPONSOR POLICE ATHLETIC LEAGUE YOUTH
TEAMS (FIRST STEP)**

What:

To increase recreational opportunities for youth by providing team sports at no cost to participants. NENA is working towards involving up to 120 girls and boys (6th, 7th, 8th graders) in structured athletics, coached and supervised by police officers and Police Explorers. Mutual respect is being built between police and the kids they coach. Youth are learning responsibility and sportsmanship.

How:

Through the support of NRP funding, the Police Athletic League was able to extend its program to serve Nokomis East. A girls team and boys team was created for three sports [baseball (summer), volleyball or soccer (fall), basketball (winter)]. Coaching and supervision was provided by police officers and Police Explorers. Police Explorers mobilized to recruit youth to play on the teams. PAL provided two on-duty officers to coach for two hours per week. We hired Police Explorers @ \$10/hour for additional coaching (\$10/hour x 2 hours of practices/week x 12 weeks x 3 sports x 2 teams = \$1,440). Teams practiced twice a week for two hours, from 4:00 to 6:00pm on Mondays and Wednesdays. Minnehaha United Methodist Church donated its newly renovated gym for practices. Kids walked to and from practice. PAL provided transportation to games. We paid for transportation home from games @ \$1,260/total for van rental and \$.30 for mileage. We also paid for uniforms @ \$15 per participant (\$225 for a roster of 15 x 2 teams x 3 sports = \$1,350). Uniforms will be returned and retained in storage for future use. PAL provided equipment, court rental and officials for games.

Through this program, NENA offered two seasons of baseball, softball and volley ball. There were 123 players in this program.

Partners: Police Athletic League, Police Explorers

NRP Resources First Step:

<i>1997</i>	\$4,050
Uniforms:	\$1,350
Additional Coaching:	\$1,440
Transportation from Games:	\$1,260

Leveraged Resources: \$7,560 (\$1,260 per team) from Police Athletic League
144 hours of on-duty police time
Gym space from Minnehaha United Methodist Church

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Police Department

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

Full Plan: Nokomis East will continue the intentions of this strategy in People Services Goal 2, Objective 1, Strategy 7, MFAC Youth Athletics.

• **Strategy #2:**

**ESTABLISH COMMUNITY SUBSTATION
(FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)**

What:

NENA rented and outfitted a community substation where residents are working toward building relationships with 3rd precinct police, park police, our CCP/SAFE team, and city inspectors. This space is also home-base for our Citizens Patrol and Citizen Inspectors.

How:

Our Safety Task Force received commitments from 3rd Precinct Inspector, CCP/SAFE Civilian Crime Specialist Mary Etzioni, and City Inspectors Jose Cervantes and Ken Staloch, to utilize a Nokomis East substation. Office space at 50th Street & 30th Avenue was rented to house the substation. Nokomis East has a deficit of vacant storefronts and the substation's proximity to the NENA office has given it visibility and traffic. The Police Explorers donated the labor to completely renovate the office space. NRP funds provided space rental, remodeling supplies, furnishings, and telephone service. A grand opening celebration was held on National Night Out to encourage residents to use and volunteer at the substation. We are waiting for the 3rd Precinct Police Department to install a lock for which all Minneapolis police officers have the key. We are also developing training materials for substation volunteers.

Partners:

3rd Precinct Police, CCP/SAFE, City Inspections, Edythe Bluske (landlord), Citizen Patrol, NENA residents

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$4,500

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$70,000

	<u>A. SUBSTATION</u>	<u>B. CITIZEN-PATROL</u>
1999	\$20,000	\$10,000
2000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
2001	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
2002	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000
2003	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000

Contract Manager:

Minneapolis Police Department changed to NRP

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

Full Plan: First Step work on this strategy is well underway and the substation is currently in use. The neighborhood will continue it's commitment to this strategy in the full plan. It will be a place for agencies to exchange information, coordinate events, stop for phone calls and complete reports. NENA has decided to combine Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 4, Form and Outfit a Citizens Patrol with this strategy in the Neighborhood Action Plan to maximize efficiency of implementation. NRP funds dedicated to the substation will be used to lease office space, purchase office supplies, phone service, recruit volunteers to staff the sub-station, and publicize and promote the use of the sub-station. NRP funds dedicated to the Citizen Patrol will be used to purchase necessary equipment and supplies, recruit volunteers, and publicize the existence of a Citizen Patrol. The substation is located in the Keewaydin neighborhood but services the entire NENA community. Funds for this strategy are interchangeable between the substation and stroll patrol.

• **Strategy #3: SPONSOR SAFETY WORKSHOPS (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Sponsor five safety workshops held in Nokomis East to empower residents to protect themselves and their property. This will counteract the perception of danger and feelings of isolation, victimization, and inability to act effectively or safely.

How:

Workshops will be taught locally by CCP/SAFE on personal safety, home security, automobile security, and safety for seniors. Police Explorers will coordinate and help teach an additional workshop on gang activity and graffiti interpretation/removal. NRP funds were to be used for printing and promotion of workshops for maximum participation by block club leaders and other residents. Ads were to be purchased in the local newspaper.

Five workshops were held in Nokomis East [Personal Safety (4-29-97), Home Security (5-28-97), Automobile Security (9-25-97), Personal Safety for Seniors (10-7-97), and graffiti/gang activity (7-9-98). Nokomis worked with CCP/SAFE to provide these workshops without the use of NRP funds. NRP funds were redirected.

Partners: CCP/SAFE, Police Explorers

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$0 (\$1,080 First Step) - (\$1080 Plan. Mod # 3)

Contract Manager: CCP/SAFE

First Step Implementation Status: Redirected - Workshops are being conducted by CCP/SAFE without the use of NRP funding.

Plan Modification #3: Moved \$1,080 from Safety, Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 3, (Sponsoring Safety Workshops - pg. 13) and \$360 from Safety. Goal 1, Objective 3, Strategy 1, (Install Traffic Calming Devices - pg. 15) to Safety, Goal 1, Objective 1, Strategy 1 (Recruit New Block Clubs and McGruff Houses - pg. 11) This modification allowed Nokomis East to provide security hardware to residents and sponsor a recognition event for block club leaders.

• **Strategy #4: FORM AND OUTFIT CITIZENS PATROL
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA has developed and is maintaining a neighborhood patrol to build community and increase the safety of public areas. Citizen patrols deter crime with their visible presence and serve as additional eyes for the police.

How:

NENA will train residents to report suspicious activity to police by using two-way radios, cellular phones and the 911 network. NENA will coordinate training in safe intervention and other appropriate areas, utilizing CCP/SAFE and the Lyndale and Jordan neighborhood models. NRP funds will provide cellular phones, air time, radios with microphones, uniforms, flashlights, recruitment publicity, and staff resources for organizing and monitoring. NENA will own, maintain, and loan equipment to patrol volunteers. We will apply for cellular phones donated by the Community Policing Consortium through its Communities on Phone Patrol (COPP) Program.

Partners: 911 network, 3rd Precinct Police, CCP/SAFE

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$9,000

Leveraged Resources: Cellular phones from Community Policing Consortium

Contract Manager: CCP/SAFE changed to NRP

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

Full Plan: This strategy will be combined with Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 2, *Establish Community Sub-station*, in the full plan. First Step activity will continue as implemented during the First Step implementation phase. Continuing activities for the Citizen Patrol will be conducted in conjunction with the sub-station activities.

• **Strategy #5: ORGANIZE TOURS OF 911 (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Coordinate and publicize monthly tours of 911 to educate residents about how emergency police, fire and ambulance calls are handled. Residents will be taught how to properly use 911 – for non-emergency as well as life-threatening crises.

How:

Tours are conducted at the 911 Command Station, where guests can observe 911 operators and learn correct utilization of the network. Tours take 35-45 minutes and include a 13-minute video and time for questions. Many residents are not aware that 911 can be used for non-emergency purposes; for example, to report curfew and truancy violations. NRP funds will provide transportation, publicity and organizing for 12 tours serving up to 144 residents. We will encourage tours as a field trip for block clubs. Tours will expand our relationship with public safety officials and make block clubs more effective. Work continues on this strategy. It was determined that this strategy could be accomplished without the use of NRP funds. NRP funds were redirected.

Partners: 911 network, CCP/SAFE

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$0 (\$900 First Step) - (\$900 - Plan Mod.#1)

Leveraged Resources: One-time van transportation donated by Fairview Riverside

Contract Manager: CCP/SAFE

First Step Implementation Status: Redirected

Plan Modification #1: dated 4/1/98. Moved \$900 from Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 5 (Safety, Organize Tours of 911, pg. 15) and \$370 from Goal, Objective 1, Strategy 2 (Safety, Establish Phone Tree, pg. 11) to Goal 1, objective 3, Strategy 2 (Safety, Hire Off-Duty police, pg. 16). The redirection was requested so that Nokomis East could match the hourly rate and maintain the number of patrol hours developed in the scope of services.

• **Strategy #6:**

**IMPLEMENT THE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
THE CITIZEN'S CONCERNS SURVEY
CONDUCTED BY CCP/SAFE (FULL PLAN)**

What: NENA and the Safety Task Force will work together to identify neighborhood issues and concerns on a regular basis. Local public, private and non-profit agencies/programs will be called upon to help develop strategies and implement programs that address identified problems and seek their resolution. Programs may include but are not limited to:

- Parenting series and parenting support group
- Restorative Justice Program
- Education, training and support around domestic violence
- Graffiti information
- Curfew information
- Self defense for children
- Mentoring program
- Police buy back program

Additionally, NENA will look to identify neighborhood people who make a difference and will celebrate our community's efforts to solve their problems.

How: As issues of concern arise, the Safety Task Force in conjunction with CCP/SAFE and other appropriate agencies will develop a specific action plan to address each particular issue.

Partners: CCP/SAFE, 3rd Precinct Police, Park Police, City inspections and other agencies as identified.

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$74,500

1999	\$14,900
2000	\$14,900
2001	\$14,900
2002	\$14,900
2003	\$14,900

Contract Manager: CCP/SAFE

■ **OBJECTIVE #3: IMPROVE PEDESTRIAN AND AUTOMOBILE SAFETY**

● **Strategy #1: INSTALL TRAFFIC CALMING DEVICES (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Protect pedestrian and commuter safety at busy intersections and on long stretches of roadway where speeding is a problem.

How:

Public Works will be asked to evaluate traffic problems at the intersection of 34th Avenue and 51st Street in our commercial district. A library, post office, convenience store, and supermarket draw much traffic to this intersection. Traffic is particularly dangerous for children walking to the library. The Park Board will be asked to evaluate traffic problems along Minnehaha Parkway near Nokomis Community Center where children play. Funds permitting, residents have stated a preference for installation of stop or caution signs.

The NRP funds dedicated to this strategy are not able to impact the needs that exist. Public Works will study and recommend solutions without the use of NRP funds.

Partners: Minneapolis Public Works

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$0 (\$360 First Step) - (\$360 - Plan Mod. #3)

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Public Works

First Step Implementation Status: Redirected

Plan Modification #3: Moved \$1,080 from Safety, Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 3, (Sponsoring Safety Workshops - pg. 13) and \$360 from Safety, Goal 1, Objective 3, Strategy 1, (Install Traffic Calming Devices - pg. 15) to Safety, Goal 1, Objective 1, Strategy 1 (Recruit New Block Clubs and McGruff Houses - pg. 11) This modification allowed Nokomis East to provide security hardware to residents and sponsor a recognition event for block club leaders.

• **Strategy #2: HIRE OFF-DUTY POLICE (FIRST STEP)**

What:

This strategy paired residents with officers in police squads for a traffic enforcement ride-along program.

How:

NRP funds were used to hire police on a "buy-back beat" for 90 hours of police coverage from April 1, 1998 - September 16, 1998. There were 25 ride-a-long citizen partners. Busy intersections, stop signs, and long stretches of roadway were targeted and violators were ticketed. Residents identified problem areas for the officers. Squads were also available to monitor other crime-related issues. Many police officers live in Nokomis East and expressed interest in the "buy-back beat." Increased police presence and ticketing are deterring speeding and creating safer streets.

Partners: Police officers working "buy-back beat"

NRP Resources First Step:

1997: \$3,520 (\$2,250 First Step) + (\$1,270 - Plan Mod. #1)

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Police Department

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Completed

Plan Modification #1: dated 4/1/98. Moved \$900 from Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 5 (Safety, Organize Tours of 911, pg. 15) and \$370 from Goal, Objective 1, Strategy 2 (Safety, Establish Phone Tree, pg. 11) to Goal 1, objective 3, Strategy 2 (Safety, Hire Off-Duty police, pg. 16). The redirection was requested so that Nokomis East could match the hourly rate and maintain the number of patrol hours developed in the scope of services.

PEOPLE SERVICES

FIRST STEP STRATEGIES

Total: \$194,550

Expand Healthy Seniors Project (\$9,900)

+ (\$4,500 Plan Mod. # 2)

Expand Longfellow HandyWorks (\$9,000)

Create Bossen Youth Outreach and Intervention Program (\$41,400)

Create After-School Youth Involvement Program (\$45,000)

Create Computer Center at Keewaydin Community School (\$60,000)

Fund Support Service Workers for Wenonah School (\$9,000)

Create Early Childhood and Family Education Program (\$4,500)

Study Feasibility of Community Center in Wenonah Area (\$9,000)

- (\$4,500 Plan Mod. #2) - (\$4,500 Plan Mod. #5)

Community History Art Project Involving Youth and Elders (\$6,750)

+ (\$4,500 Plan Mod. #5)

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN STRATEGIES

NAP Total: \$675,876

Provide Funding for the Nokomis Healthy Seniors Program (\$90,000)

Continue the NENA Youth Program (\$97,000)

Expand Early Childhood and Family Education Programs (\$14,260)

Rebuild Keewaydin Playground (\$70,000)

Improve/Expand MFAC Programs (\$5,500)

Children First- Developmental Asset Building for Youth (\$67,000)

Ensure a Strong Neighborhood Association (\$282,116)

Morris Park Renovation/Early Access (\$50,000)

■ OVERVIEW

Nokomis East is a changing community that must gently balance the needs of its seniors, youth and families. According to the 1990 census, our senior population (age 65 and over) grew to approximately 17%, or 2,563 residents. Meanwhile, our fastest growing population was age 25-44. Teenagers currently make up at least 10% of our population, or approximately 1,500 residents. Because our neighborhoods offer affordable housing, Nokomis East attracts young people interested in starting a family.

There are three K-5 Minneapolis Public Schools within our boundaries: Keewaydin, Morris Park, and Wenonah Community Schools. Three parks (Keewaydin Park, Morris Park, and Nokomis Community Center) provide programming for all age groups. Seven churches serve residents of various denominations. While a few non-profit agencies serve our residents, we do not have a major social service presence in our neighborhoods.

Residents have identified three clear priorities: to help seniors and persons with disabilities continue living safely and independently at home, to improve recreational and educational opportunities for youth and families, and to strengthen community and neighborhood involvement.

GOAL #1: MAINTAIN AND IMPROVE INFORMATION AND SERVICES TO SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** TO SUPPORT AND EXPAND SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS THAT HELP TO MAINTAIN SENIORS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES IN NOKOMIS EAST

• **Strategy #1:** EXPAND HEALTHY SENIORS PROJECT (FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)

What:

Provide more nursing, home health aide and volunteer services to seniors and persons with disabilities so that they can continue living safely and independently at home. This project is strengthening the community in two ways: (1) seniors and persons with disabilities are able to remain in their homes, and continue to be a vital part of the neighborhood, participating in churches and service groups, and patronizing local businesses; and (2) community ties are being strengthened because residents of all ages are volunteering to work with neighbors in need.

How:

Studies show that 530 Nokomis East residents require assistance with home health care and daily living activities. Healthy Seniors is a Medicare demonstration project that is funded by the federal government through December 1997. NRP funds helped Healthy Seniors continue as a Living at Home/Block Nurse Program after the demonstration. Healthy Seniors built a volunteer network of Nokomis East residents who identified elderly or disabled neighbors in need of assistance to remain living in their homes, participate in the recruitment and education of volunteers to meet needs, and coordinate volunteers to fill those needs. Healthy Seniors also planned and implemented a pilot effort to provide home health aide services to residents who need custodial and maintenance care.

Partners:

Healthy Seniors Project, Field Regina Northrup Neighborhood Association, Hale Page Diamond Lake Neighborhood Association, State of Minnesota, private foundations.

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$14,400 (\$9,900 First Step) + (\$4,500-Plan Mod. #2)

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$90,000

1999 \$15,000

2000 \$35,000

2001 \$13,300

2002 \$13,300

2003 \$13,400

Leveraged Resources: \$1,300 of staff time toward home health aide project from Living at Home/Block Nurse Program and HealthSpan Home Care and Hospice

Contract Manager: Hennepin County

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Completed

Plan Modification #2: Moved \$4,500 from Goal 3, Objective 1-2, Strategy 1 (People Services, Study Feasibility of Community Center in Wenonah, pg. 24) to Goal 1, Objective 1, Strategy 1 (People Services, Expand Healthy Seniors Project, pg. 18) This redirection of funds allowed Healthy Seniors to operate at the level Nokomis East desires.

Full Plan: Nearly 2600 seniors live in Nokomis East as of the 1990 census and that number is expected to rise to over 2800 by the year 2000. The Nokomis Healthy Seniors is a program that works with elders to help them continue living safely and independently in their homes. The program will build off the success of the Nokomis East Neighborhood Volunteer Network, a program of NENA's First Step Plan. Program staff carries out the mission by assessing seniors' needs and then assisting elders in meeting the identified needs by training and placing volunteers to provide assistance and by coordinating services from community agencies. The program will arrange for nursing and home health aide services. Outreach, follow up and long term case management ensure that seniors in need of assistance will be reached and that the program will continue to meet their needs as they change over time.

Nokomis Healthy Seniors works with seniors to increase their use of community resources as well as to encourage seniors and other community members to volunteer. By involving neighborhood volunteers for services such as companion visiting, grocery shopping, and giving rides to medical appointments, the program gives community members an opportunity to make a difference in an older person's life and increases connections between neighbors. Service Coordinators work with seniors free of charge and recruit, train, place and supervise neighborhood volunteers. Nursing and home health aide visits will be available on a sliding fee scale basis.

The Nokomis Healthy Seniors Program will administer this project under the supervision of their Board of Directors and Program Director. NENA will review the program's quarterly report and refer potential service recipients and volunteers to the program as appropriate. Other neighborhood NRP plans, the State, private foundations, corporations, and individual contributions will provide additional funding for this program.

• **Strategy #2:**

**EXPAND LONGFELLOW HANDYWORKS
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

Longfellow Handyworks is providing household chore and home maintenance services to seniors and persons with disabilities so that they can continue living safely and independently at home. Neighborhood stability is being maintained by helping seniors and persons with disabilities remain in their homes. Property values will be maintained by keeping up houses and yards. Jobs will are also being created for residents.

How:

Studies show that 530 Nokomis East residents require assistance with household chores. Longfellow HandyWorks, a program of Catholic Charities, has been successfully serving Nokomis East residents for 15 years. However, their name recognition is low and demand for services far exceeds their resources. In 1995, Longfellow HandyWorks served 631 clients; approximately 210 of these clients live in Nokomis East. Longfellow HandyWorks is currently providing the maximum amount of service possible with two part-time staff members (each working 20 hours/week) and limited financial resources available. NRP funds provided Longfellow HandyWorks with chore service subsidies, staff time, and outreach. In 1997, HandyWorks was funded by the federal Title III Older Americans Act, Catholic Charities, Hennepin County, United Way, customer contributions, and contributions from individuals and neighborhood organizations.

Partners: Longfellow HandyWorks

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$9,000

Leveraged Resources: Grants will be sought from other financial resources

Contract Manager: Hennepin County

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/In-progress

GOAL #2: BUILD A COMMUNITY THAT VALUES YOUTH AND FAMILIES AND STRENGTHENS THEIR TIES TO THEIR NEIGHBORS

- **OBJECTIVE #1:** **IMPROVE RECREATIONAL AND EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH AND FAMILIES**
- **OBJECTIVE #2:** **CREATE PAID AND VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH**
- **OBJECTIVE #3:** **INCREASE YOUTH PARTICIPATION IN COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES**
- **Strategy #1:** **CREATE BOSSEN YOUTH OUTREACH AND INTERVENTION PROGRAM (FIRST STEP)**

What:

This program provided kids age 9-17 with social, recreational, educational and service opportunities. This project worked toward building esteem in youth through constructive after-school activities and caring relationships with adults. Continuing efforts are being made to deter youth from gang involvement, violence, and criminal activities.

How:

Bossen is an area of subsidized and low-income housing located along Crosstown Highway 62 in our Wenonah neighborhood. Bossen has 550 families, and 50-75 residents are age 9-17. The Wenonah neighborhood is without a park building and there is no public gathering spot within a four block radius of Bossen. Consequently, kids tend to hang out on street corners and get into mischief.

NENA sponsored a Bossen resident for Community Leadership Training through Family and Children's Service. This resident has been organizing neighbors who want to make Bossen a healthy place to raise children. They have formed a "Simmons Community Center" group of volunteers that is providing youth and family support.

NRP funds will further their achievement. We paid Family and Children's Service to hire, train, and supervise a Bossen/Nokomis East resident to organize youth activities, provide outreach services for at-risk youth, and increase access by their families to existing services. An advisory council was created to seek additional funding to develop a youth center in the Bossen area.

Partners: Family and Children's Service
Organizers of Simmons Community Center
Youth Coordinating Board
Minneapolis School Board

**NRP Resources First Step:
1997**

\$41,400	
Program Coordinator's Salary & Benefits	\$21,900
Supervisor's Salary & Benefits	\$ 3,400
Administration by F&CS	\$ 3,600
Space Rental, Utilities, Insurance, and Transportation	\$10,000
Program Expenses	\$ 2,500

Leveraged Resources: Space provided at below-market rent from Bossen landlord
Activity space donated by area churches
Use of Bossen Field ball diamond from Park Board
Access to Family and Children's Service programs

Contract Manager: Hennepin County
First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Complete

- **Strategy #2: CREATE AFTER-SCHOOL YOUTH
INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM (FIRST STEP/FULL
PLAN)**

What:

NENA developed a partnership with the Hiawatha YMCA to provide up to 120 youth (age 10-14) with year-round recreational, educational, and community service programming during the hours when working parents cannot provide supervision. Adults will enjoy peace of mind, knowing that youth are involved in safe and constructive after-school activities.

How:

This program was developed in partnership with the Hiawatha YMCA, which serves Nokomis East residents although it is located in the Standish Ericsson community. The program is staffed by the YMCA. It operates out of Minnehaha United Methodist and St. James Episcopal church and may use church and community volunteers. Efforts are continuing so that this "movable feast" program can operate at rotating sites in all four neighborhoods, potentially serving a different group of kids at each site. NRP funds provided staffing, program supplies, transportation, and administrative costs incurred by churches offering space.

Partners: Hiawatha YMCA, area churches, Youth Coordinating Board, Minneapolis Public Schools

NRP Resources First Step:

1997	\$45,000	
	Staff Coordinator	\$17,220
	Outreach Workers (2 part-time)	\$17,220
	+12% (taxes and benefits)	\$ 4,133
	Church Administration Fees	\$ 2,000
	Transportation	\$ 2,236
	Program Supplies	\$ 2,191

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$97,000

1999 \$36,000

2000 \$36,000

2001 \$25,000

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources: Possibility of Americorp interns, YMCA

Contract Manager: NRP-First Step--Dept. Of Health and Family Support/NAP

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Complete

Full Plan: The youth center has served over 95 (unduplicated) youth since it opened in January. The attendance has surpassed 550 participants, with many "regular" youth participants. Based on the success of this program NENA will continue support. NRP funds will provide funding for a youth center four days per week in two NENA neighborhood churches for youth ages 9-14 years old. The center offers safe, structured after-school recreation based activities as well as field trips, service activities and a youth leadership council. The youth center is offered at Minnehaha United Methodist Church and St. James Episcopal Church Monday through Thursday after school and during the summer.

The youth center would continue to operate as it is currently. The Hiawatha YMCA is the contracted vendor of program services. The YMCA has agreed to continue in this role. Special events and field trips will be coordinated with other agencies and organizations.

- **Strategy #3:** **CREATE EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY EDUCATION PROGRAM (FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)**

What:

Support and strengthen young families through information, education, and networking. Three 10-week courses are being offered at a local church and taught by parenting educators. By helping residents improve their parenting skills, we will build a healthier community.

How:

The overflowing Early Childhood and Family Education program that operates at St. Helena's church will be expanded into Nokomis East to serve up to 100 families. NRP funds provided a salary for a parenting educator and child care worker, publicity for the program, and administrative costs for a church offering space.

Partners: Nokomis Falls ECFE, area churches

NRP Resources First Step:

<i>1997</i>	\$4,500	
	Parent Educator	\$2,700
	Child Care Worker	\$ 900
	Church Administration Fee	\$ 750
	Publicity	\$ 150

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$14,260

1999 \$4,750

2000 \$4,750

2001 \$4,760

2002

2003

Contract Manager: Youth Coordinating Board changed to NRP

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Completed

Full Plan: Based on the success and full registrations of the First Step Program, the Early Childhood and Family Education Program (ECFE) will provide evening parenting classes at Minnehaha United Methodist Church. Classes are typically offered once a week for two hours. Child care will be provided and outreach efforts will be made throughout the Nokomis East neighborhood.

Partners in this project will include ECFE program staff, child care workers, Minnehaha United Methodist Church, other area churches and schools.

ECFE will pay for the parent educator's salary. NRP funds will be used to pay for child care, room rental, and publicity.

- **Strategy #4: CREATE COMPUTER CENTER AT KEEWAYDIN COMMUNITY SCHOOL (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA provided 26 computers to be used as a teaching tool for 350 students (K-5) at Keewaydin Community School and used by residents for after-school adult literacy and GED programs. Computers will enable residents to use the school. New computers will be an incentive for local parents to send children to their neighborhood school.

How:

Keewaydin Principal Don Genereux secured a commitment from the Minneapolis School Board to match our NRP funding of \$60,000. A 26-unit Computer Curriculum Corporation (CCC) lab was purchased and installed to use as a teaching tool to address students' needs in reading, math and science. Each student will work on the computer 30 minutes per day. The CCC lab can measure, record, and keep an ongoing record of each student's performance. CCC labs have increased math performance and reading proficiency. This will upgrade the school's lab of 15 "vintage" Apple II computers. Principal Genereux will make this computer lab and other school resources available to the community. He will order learning software for GED, Adult Literacy, and Family Literacy. Efforts will be made to attract Community Education classes to Keewaydin Community School to help residents utilize the computer lab. We will also explore the possibility of moving some computers to the Nokomis Public Library during summer months when the school is closed.

Partners: Keewaydin Community School and Nokomis Public Library

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$60,000

Leveraged Resources: \$60,000 from Minneapolis School Board
\$ 1,728 from Keewaydin Community School

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Public Schools

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Complete - 60 computers were installed. Community use of the computers continues to be explored.

• **Strategy #5: FUND SUPPORT SERVICE WORKERS FOR
WENONAH COMMUNITY SCHOOL (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Currently, there are only two men at Wenonah Community School – the principal and one teacher. Many of the students come from a single-parent family headed by a mother. This project will provide youth outreach workers who are male-role models from the neighborhood to work with youth on the playground, in the lunchroom, and in classrooms.

How:

NRP funds paid the salaries for three adult men to work several hours per day for the school year. The Wenonah principal hired and supervised the support service workers. The school will train the workers to teach conflict resolution and social skills to kids age 5-10. This project is designed to promote school and community safety. It has also provided jobs for neighborhood residents. This is a demonstration project. If successful, other funds will be sought to continue the project.

Partners: Wenonah Community School

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$9,000

Leveraged Resources: NENA will seek grants to sustain project

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Public Schools

Implementation Status: Contracted/Complete-workers employed in 98/99 school year.

• **Strategy #6:**

**KEEWAYDIN SCHOOL PLAYGROUND
(FULL PLAN)**

What:

The NENA neighborhoods want to create a space that encourages family interaction and enhances livability of the neighborhood community. NENA will provide partial funding to provide safe and updated playground equipment for the Keewaydin school playground.

How:

NENA will explore financial collaborative partners, (MPRB, MPS, local business) solicit neighborhood input in the planning process, vendor search and selection, and with equipment installation, (neighborhood volunteers) for the playground renovation.

Partners: Keewaydin School, MPRB, MPS, local business,
neighborhood volunteers

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$70,000

1999 \$70,000

2000

2001

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources: \$50,000/MPRB

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

• **Strategy #7:**

**MINNEHAHA FALLS ATHLETIC COUNCIL
(MFAC) YOUTH ATHLETICS (FULL PLAN)**

What:

MFAC has functioned solely as a volunteer organization in Nokomis East for over 30 years. It's primary purpose is to fund and organize youth athletic programs for ages 5-16 in cooperation with the Minneapolis Park facilities. Last year over 400 neighborhood youth participated in various MFAC programs including MFAC's annual community picnic. Participation has increased over the last three years, primarily in the 5-8 year old bracket. MFAC is in need of updated equipment, uniforms, and funding which can be used to recruit additional youth and subsidize registration fees for youth who cannot afford them. The intentions of the First Step PAL project (Safety Crime Prevention Goal 1, Objective 2, Strategy 1) will be continued in the Full Plan in this strategy. This strategy also fulfills other goals and objectives in this plan.

How:

NRP funds will be used to update equipment, purchase uniforms, publicize program, and provide support services.

Partners: Minnehaha Falls Athletic Council, MPRB

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$5,500

1999 \$4,500

2000 \$ 500

2001 \$ 500

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources:

Contract Manager: NRP

• **Strategy #8: CHILDREN FIRST - DEVELOPMENTAL ASSET
BUILDING FOR YOUTH (FULL PLAN)**

What:

Research by Search Institute has identified 40 concrete, positive experiences and qualities called “developmental assets” that have tremendous influence in young people’s lives. These are things that people from all walks of life can help to nurture. Their research shows that children who have 30 or more of these assets have successful growth and development. In Minneapolis the average child has 18.3 assets. We are sadly failing our children. Many cities across the nation are taking on asset building as a community initiative to lay the foundation for healthy, successful, youth . This proposal is to create a community wide initiative that would involve neighbors, families, schools, congregations, businesses or youth serving agencies in building assets in our children.

How:

The Children First initiative would involve people from all parts of our community in shaping and coordinating strategies that will help all young people. NENA will form a steering committee with representatives of key stakeholders in the Nokomis East neighborhoods. (schools, churches, business, library, parent groups, police, etc.) Each of the segments will be trained on the 40 developmental assets and develop strategies to build assets in youth in their own area of influence. The project will establish communication vehicles within the community, provide on going information on how everyone can be an asset builder, write articles promoting asset building activities, and develop handouts on asset building to be distributed to libraries, churches, local businesses, etc. The committee will conduct a survey of Nokomis Youth ages 12 -17 to determine the assets of youth in the community. NRP funds will be used to hire a part time coordinator, conduct the youth survey, provide funding for printing, training, resource materials, postage, and marketing materials.

Partners: Lutheran Brotherhood, Department of Children, Families, and Learning, Allina Foundation, Norwest Foundation, Children Mental Health Collaborative, Target Stores, Gathering Grounds Coffee Shop, Copy Express, Hennepin County

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$67,000

1999 \$30,000

2000 \$18,500

2001 \$18,500

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources:

Contract Manager: Hennepin County

GOAL #3: STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY AND NEIGHBORHOOD INVOLVEMENT

- **OBJECTIVE #1:** PROVIDE FOR SOCIAL AND RECREATIONAL NEEDS OF RESIDENTS

- **OBJECTIVE #2:** SUPPORT AND NURTURE THE ARTS AND CULTURAL ACTIVITIES THAT INFORM AND CELEBRATE OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY

- **Strategy #1:** STUDY FEASIBILITY OF COMMUNITY CENTER IN OUR WENONAH NEIGHBORHOOD (FIRST STEP)

What:

Work with City Planning Department to identify costs, possible sites, and potential partners who could make a community center happen in a neighborhood that lacks a public gathering spot. NRP funds will be used to hire a consultant if necessary. Many neighborhoods are competing for community centers and a credible study of financial and market feasibility is necessary to make our case to attract one. Nokomis East would benefit from a community center that promotes healthy living through physical activity, involves youth in family activities, provides supervised recreation, and emphasizes cultural diversity.

How:

City Planning staff will defray our costs by doing much of the feasibility study. If necessary, we will select a consultant through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The People Services Task Force will define the scope of services. This may include exploring collaboration with the YMCA which has expressed interest. Also, including exploration of building onto Wenonah Community School. Many of our People Service's First Step strategies could be folded into a community center's programming if significant Full Plan funding is required for building a community center.

Partners:

City Planning Department
Minneapolis Park Board
Minneapolis School Board
Consultant to be identified by RFP process

NRP Resources First Step:

1997

\$0 (\$9,000 First Step) - (\$4,500 Plan Mod. #2)
- (\$4,500 Plan Mod. #5)

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Planning Department

First Step Implementation Status: Redirected - Planning department recommendation is that no site currently exists for such a project. NENA will continue to work with planning to explore existing facilities which may fulfill this strategy in the future. NRP funds are not currently required.

Plan Modification #2: Moved \$4,500 from Goal 3, Objective 1-2, Strategy 1 (People Services, Study Feasibility of Community Center in Wenonah, pg. 24) to Goal 1, Objective 1, Strategy 1 (People Services, Expand Healthy Seniors Project, pg. 18) This redirection of funds allowed Healthy Seniors to operate at the level Nokomis East desired.

Plan Modification #5: Moved \$4,500 from People Services, Goal 3, Objective 1 & 2, Strategy 1 (Wenonah Community Center Feasibility Study - pg. 24) to People Services Goal 3, Objective 1 & 2, Strategy 2 (Community History Art Project - pg. 25).

• **Strategy #2:** **SPONSOR COMMUNITY HISTORY ART
PROJECT INVOLVING YOUTH AND ELDERS
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA brought together youth and elders to conceptualize and create an art project that will display the history of Nokomis East. The Nokomis Arch has been designed and NENA is working with the Park Board to determine the exact location of this structure. Nokomis East will benefit from a visual centerpiece that highlights our rich history. This joint effort is bridging generations and making youth and elders stronger stakeholders in the community. This project will also enhance public awareness of neighborhood identity.

How:

Youth interviewed elders and did research with elders on Nokomis East's history. The process is extremely important. Youth and seniors often feel uncomfortable with each other. We worked with the principals of our three K-5 schools to get youth participants. The Healthy Seniors Project spread the word to elders. This project created summer youth employment. NENA continues to pursue grants to offer stipends to on-going participants. The local library provided historical materials. Local businesses were approached for in-kind donations of materials. Marilyn Lindstrom, director of Neighborhood Safe Art facilitated this project. NRP funds covered the salary of an Art Project Organizer.

Partners: Neighborhood Safe Art

NRP Resources First Step:

1997

\$11,250 (\$6,750 First Step) + (\$4,500 - Plan Mod. #5)

Leveraged Resources: Possible sources – YMAP, Summer Youth Employment, FORECAST Public Artworks, Minneapolis Arts Commission, McKnight Foundation, COMPAS.

Contract Manager: NRP

First Step Implementation Status: Project developed-contract with Park Board under negotiation.

• **Strategy #3: ENSURE A STRONG NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (FULL PLAN)**

What:

By and large - volunteers make up the neighborhood association. They staff the committees, boards and task forces. They assist in the office, in the community and with special events/activities. They make some NRP projects a reality. They make the neighborhood association work. Without the volunteers NENA will have no future. This project is to ensure that a strong neighborhood association will continue in the future. Funds will be used to provide community organizing and community building activities, including recruiting, training, coordinating and supporting Nokomis East volunteers. Funds will also be used to strengthen the NENA Review newsletter.

How:

NENA will continue to fund the Community Organizer position and increase funding for the newsletter. Currently, the NENA Review is published quarterly and the neighborhood would like to increase publications to a monthly or bi-monthly basis.

Partners:

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$282,116

1999	\$92,847
2000	\$82,846
2001	\$56,423
2002	\$30,000
2003	\$20,000

Leveraged Resources:

Contract Manager: NRP

• **Strategy #4: 1992 TRANSITION PROJECT - MORRIS PARK PHYSICAL IMPROVEMENTS**

What:

Morris Park residents and the Park Board supported the upgrade and expansion of the recreational building space at Morris Park which is bordered by 55th St. on the north, 56th St. on the south, 40th Ave. to the east and 39th Ave. to the west. This project was requested by the Park Board in 1992 prior to the formal organization of the Nokomis East NRP planning process.

How:

This project was accomplished using \$300,000 of transition funds and \$50,000 of Early Access funding which passed the Policy Board and City Council in 1993. It was not discovered until late this summer that the Early Access funds were not applied to the Nokomis East NRP funds in the First Step Plan.

Partners: Mpls. Park and Recreation Board

NRP Resources Full Plan: \$50,000 (Early Access)

1993 \$50,000

Contract Manager: Mpls. Park and Recreation Board

HOUSING

First Step Total: \$659,532

FIRST STEP STRATEGIES

- Create Low-Interest Home Improvement Loans (\$402,000)**
- Create Matching Grants/Deferred Loans (\$100,000)**
- Create Rental/Multi-Unit Rehab Fund (\$40,000)**
- Identify Solutions to Blight at Gateways (\$7,000)**
- Create Demolition Fund (\$27,532)**
- Set-Aside Emergency Repair/Replacement Fund (\$40,000)**
- Set-Aside Fund to Augment Sound Insulation Program (\$40,000)**
- Develop "Welcome Wagon" Packets for New Residents (\$1,000)**
- Create Architectural Plans for Renovation and Expansion (\$1,000)**
- Compile Housing Information Resources for Public Use (\$1,000)**

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN STRATEGIES

NAP Total \$1,358,490

- Create Revolving Low Interest Loans (\$725,000)**
- Expand the Deferred Loan Fund (\$175,000)**
- Provide Grants for Rental Property Repair and Remodeling (\$82,000)**
- Expand the Blighted and Substandard Homes Program (\$125,000)**
- Expand the Emergency Repair Fund (\$50,000)**
- Redevelopment of 34th Ave. between 54th and 58th St. (\$96,000)**
- Expand the Part 150 Sound Insulation Program (\$50,000)**
- Welcome Wagon Packets (\$2,000)**
- Assisted Living Opportunities (\$50,000)**
- Expand the Availability of Housing Information for Public Use (\$3,490)**

■ OVERVIEW

Nokomis East's housing stock is relatively good and stable. However, as the neighborhood housing stock ages, a large population of seniors on fixed incomes are unable to keep up with home maintenance and repairs. Currently, we have only one house on the 249 list for condemnation. Substandard housing makes up about 6% of total housing structures and is more prevalent among non-homestead properties. According to the 1990 census, approximately 19.4% of our 6,758 housing units are renter occupied [Wenonah (30.4% or 594 units), Minnehaha (16% or 316 units), Morris Park (14.9% or 204 units), and Keewaydin (14.0% or 203 units)]. We are proud of our landlords' association, the Bossen Area Rental Coalition.

The majority of single-family houses were built between 1920 and 1960 with a building boom during the 1920s and 1940s. A focus group of area Realtors revealed that home buyers choose Nokomis East because of its affordable housing and natural amenities. On average, a house is sold within 32 days of being on the market. Many of our homes are small and cannot accommodate growing families. We also have a handful of "garage homes."

In the "Jet Age," residents have negotiated with the Metropolitan Airports Commission to limit noise and sound insulate properties in the neighborhood. In contrast with the urban decay surrounding airports in most cities, our active citizens have been able to keep our neighborhood vibrant and attractive. Pride of ownership is evident in the lawns and gardens of even the most modest homes.

Survey results show that Nokomis East residents are frugal and want to stretch their NRP dollars. Respondents clearly preferred dispersing home improvement funds via loans rather than grants. Many residents have said that they oppose "giving all the housing money away." Attractive interest rates have already generated a demand for NRP loans that exceeds our loan pool. We have made every effort to provide home improvement incentives for all income levels.

GOAL #1: INCREASE PROPERTY VALUES

- **OBJECTIVE #1:** REMODEL AND REPAIR FOR MAXIMUM INCREASE IN PROPERTY VALUES
- **Strategy #1:** CREATE LOW INTEREST HOME IMPROVEMENT LOANS (FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)

What:

Nokomis East enabled property owners to improve their property by obtaining loans of up to \$4,000 at lower interest rates than offered by banks. This loan pool was \$402,000. Attractive interest rates are an incentive for residents to repair and remodel. This project will increase the stability of our housing stock, thereby increasing property values for all Nokomis East homeowners. Owner-occupied or absentee-owned properties with up to 3 dwelling units were eligible. Loans were limited to one per owner for the First Step Plan.

How:

Interest rates were determined by income:

6% interest - over 100% of median household income - (\$34,000+)*

4% interest - 80% to 100% of median household income - (\$27,200 - \$33,999)*

2% interest - 60% to 80% of median household income - (\$20,400 - \$27,199)*

0% interest - less than 60% of median household income - (\$20,399 and below)*

* Median household income figures change annually.

Interior and exterior improvement projects were eligible. A Request for Proposal Process selected Project for Pride in Living to administer the program. The program was publicized, and applications were accepted by NENA. Loans were distributed by lottery because the level of interest in the program exceeded the \$402,000 available. The Housing Task Force continued its planning process, and set generous debt-to-income and loan-to-value ratios. Loans were made available for the Summer 1997 building season.

Partners: Program Administrator selected by RFP process
was Project for Pride in Living

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$402,000

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$725,000

1999 \$275,000

2000 \$250,000

2001 \$200,000

2002

2003

Contract Manager: MCDA

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress
PPL Administers First Step

Full Plan: Based on the success of this program in the First Step process, Nokomis East will continue this program in the full plan. This program will have set income guidelines and interest rates - yet to be determined. NENA will collect and publish information regarding other available loan resources to program participants.

• **Strategy #2:**

**CREATE MATCHING GRANTS / DEFERRED
LOANS (FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)**

What:

NENA helped address the home improvement needs of lower-income residents in order to raise property values. This project is combating blight by helping homeowners who lack the resources to repair and remodel their property. Deferred loans are known as "forgiveness loans" because they don't have to be repaid if a residency requirement is met. Owner-occupied or absentee-owned properties with up to 3 dwelling units were eligible. Deferred loans and matching deferred loans were limited to one per owner for the First Step Plan.

How:

Loans will be deferred for 5 years, with 20% of the loan forgiven for each year of continued residency. Repayment is not required after 5 years. Funds were divided into two pools:

5-Year Deferred Loans [\$60,000]

Maximum Loan: \$4,000

Eligibility: 0% to 60% of median household income (up to \$20,399)*

* Median household income figures change annually.

5-Year Matching Deferred Loans [\$40,000]

Maximum Loan: \$2,000

Match: \$1.00 for every \$1.00 borrowed

Eligibility: 60% to 100% of median household income (\$20,400 to \$34,000)*

* Median household income figures change annually.

Interior and exterior improvement projects were eligible. A Request for Proposal Process selected Project for Pride in Living to administer the program. NENA publicized the program, and accepted applications. Loans from both pools were distributed by lottery. Deferred loans were available for the Summer 1997 building season.

Partners:

Program Administrator selected by RFP process
Lending institution was Project for Pride in Living

NRP Resources First Step:

1997	\$100,000	
	Loan pool #1	\$ 60,000
	Loan pool #2	\$ 40,000

NRP Resources Full NAP:

1999	\$ 75,000
2000	\$100,000
2001	
2002	
2003	

Leveraged Resources: \$40,000 from homeowners' match (First Step only)

Contract Manager: MCDA

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress PPL administers First Step

Full Plan: NENA will continue it's support to neighborhood rental properties in the Full Plan. The purpose of this program is to improve rental property, increase property values, prevent and protect Nokomis East from urban decay, provide "life cycle" housing options, and establish or sustain safe homes for renters. This program applies to properties with 4 or more units.

The Full Plan program will be a matching grant program. Under this program the NRP funds would provide 25% matching grants. The rental property owner will apply for the grant through NENA and present best estimate of project costs along with a copy of the current Minneapolis rental license. NENA will forward qualified applicants to the program administrator. Property owner will make improvements and present receipts to program administrator. Administrator representative will visit property and validate the project. Administrator will reimburse property owner for 25% of project cost.

GOAL #2: PREVENT AND/OR PROTECT THE NOKOMIS EAST AREA FROM URBAN DECAY

■ **OBJECTIVE #1: EVALUATE AND IMPLEMENT STRATEGIES TO
CLEAN-UP BLIGHTED AREAS**

• **Strategy #1: IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO GATEWAY BLIGHT
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

Study the feasibility of enhancement options, particularly off Crosstown 62 at 34th Avenue and 28th Avenue. This will include posting neighborhood identification signs at selected gateways. By cleaning up our entrances we will fight urban decay, and attract more visitors and home buyers.

How:

Blighted areas affect the appearance and safety of blocks around them. To reverse this impact, we will create a "blight elimination plan" with community input. This study will include posting neighborhood identification signs; determining ownership of properties; coordinating the resources of environmental groups and the Minnesota Department of Transportation; coordinating responsibilities for land clean-up and planting; and determining maintenance options. The Environmental Task Force has a strategy to sponsor neighborhood tree planting and they may select gateways as planting sites. The Park Board will do an inventory of trees and make planting recommendations to NENA.

Partners: MNDOT, Park Board (Forestry Department, Environmental Service), MN Tree Trust, MN Green

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$7,000

Leveraged Resources: Minneapolis Park Board (to be determined)

Contract Manager: Environmental Inspections

First Step Implementation Status: Not Contracted/In development

• **Strategy #2: CREATE DEMOLITION FUND (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA will continue to assist with the removal of hazardous/boarded vacant properties identified by City Inspections for condemnation. Properties that are abandoned and unlivable are an eyesore, attract criminal activity and make adjacent properties vulnerable.

How:

Properties identified by City Inspections for condemnation (on the 249 list) will be removed using NRP funds matched with funds from City Inspections. Neighborhoods must set aside funds for demolition in order to receive matching funds from the city. Remaining funds may be used to contribute toward existing city and private developer funding for construction of new housing to replace demolished properties. Currently, Nokomis East has one property that was identified for condemnation.

Partners: City Inspections

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$27,532 (First Step)

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$125,000

1999 \$75,000

2000 \$50,000

2001

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources: \$27,532 demolition match from City Inspections

Contract Manager: City Inspections/MCDA

First Step Implementation Status: \$13,000 Inspections Memorandum of Understanding
\$14,532 not allocated

Full Plan: This strategy will be expanded in the Full Plan to allow for the acquisition of private properties for the purposes of rehabilitation and resale, in addition to providing continued funding for the 50/50 cost split with the City of Mpls. Department of Inspections for demolition of condemned properties. Currently, NENA has committed \$13,000 to the MOU with the city regarding demolitions. The remainder of the funding will be allocated as a project arises, or as additional funds may be needed for demolitions. This program compliments the MCDA Vacant Recycling Housing Program.

Specifically, NENA will compile a list of potential rehab or resale properties. Building inspectors will be notified as well as local realtors regarding the potential of acquisition. NENA will work with MCDA to acquire properties for rehab or demolition. NENA will seek out private developers to renovate or build new housing.

• **Strategy #3:**

**CREATE EMERGENCY REPAIR AND
REPLACEMENT FUND (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Some residents find themselves with a broken furnace or hot water heater in the dead of winter. For this type of crisis in any season, we will provide grants of up to \$2,000 for property owners who demonstrate that they cannot get a loan from a traditional lender. The purpose of this project is to prevent owners from abandoning unlivable homes.

How:

Grants have been made with discretion, only on an emergency basis, to enable residents to make necessary repairs so that they can remain in their homes. This program is being administered by Project for Pride in Living. This fund was available by Summer 1997.

Partners:

Program Administrator selected by RFP process
lending institution - PPL

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$40,000

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$50,000

1999 \$20,000

2000 \$20,000

2001 \$10,000

2002

2003

Contract Manager: MCDA

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-progress
PPL administers First Step

Full Plan: NENA will continue support to this strategy in the full plan. NENA will review program guidelines, choose an administrator, publicize the program, forward participants to program administrator, and resolve unforeseen conflicts. The program administrator will evaluate proposed cases, oversee work, disburse funds, and report to NENA.

- **Strategy #4:** **COORDINATED REDEVELOPMENT OF 34TH AVENUE BETWEEN 54TH AND 58TH STREET (FULL PLAN)**

What:

Nokomis East would like to improve the public perception of the neighborhood at one of the main entry points to Nokomis East and increase property values and livability in the neighborhoods along this important traffic corridor.

How:

The NENA Housing Task Force will review the area and identify the properties in most need of renovation, demolition, or with the greatest potential for improvement. The task force will solicit development ideas from private developers to renovate or build new housing and possibly public space improvements, and work with the MCDA and Public Works to determine how they can participate in this project.

Partners: Private Developers, MCDA, Public Works, Planning

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$96,000

1999

2000 \$50,000

2001 \$46,000

2002

2003

Contract Manager: MCDA

GOAL #3: REDUCE IMPACT OF AIRPLANE NOISE ON HOMEOWNERS

- **OBJECTIVE #1:** **EXPAND THE PROGRAM FOR SOUND INSULATION**

- **Strategy #1:** **SET ASIDE FUND TO AUGMENT PART 150 SOUND INSULATION PROGRAM (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA is providing 5-year deferred loans of up to \$2,000 to make repairs identified by contractors as necessary to protect or begin sound insulation. The purpose of this project is to protect the sound insulation investment and enable more homeowners to take advantage of the Part 150 program. Approximately 13,000 more homes are scheduled to be sound insulated by the year 2001. Many of the eligible homes are located in Nokomis East.

How:

At present, sound insulation will not be done until a home passes or rectifies ventilation/carbon monoxide problems. This expense is the responsibility of the homeowner. Our fund may be tapped for this, in addition to leaky roofs and other structural problems that reduce the effectiveness of sound insulation. This fund must be used for repairs not covered by the Metropolitan Airports Commission. The program is being managed by Project for Pride in Living who also manages the Part 150 Program for the Metropolitan Airports Commission.

Partners: Program Administrator selected by RFP process - PPL,
Metropolitan Airports Commission

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$40,000

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$50,000

1999 \$20,000

2000 \$20,000

2001 \$10,000

2002

2003

Contract Manager: MCDA

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress
PPL administers First Step

Full Plan: NENA will continue support to this program in the full plan. This will provide a continuing source of funds (below market rate loans/grants) to complete pre-construction repairs not covered by the Metropolitan Airports Commission, but identified as necessary for the completion of the sound insulation improvements. Concurrent upgrades to the MAC program improvements will also be considered. NENA will review program guidelines, choose an administrator, publicize the program, forward participants to program administrator, and resolve unforeseen conflicts. The program administrator will evaluate proposed cases, oversee work, disburse funds, and report to NENA.

GOAL #4:	RETAIN STABLE LONG-TERM AND NEW HOMEOWNERS
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■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** **CREATE A STABLE COMMUNITY WHERE RESIDENTS CAN LIVE A LIFETIME**

• **Strategy #1:** **DEVELOP AND DISTRIBUTE “WELCOME WAGON” PACKETS TO NEW RESIDENTS (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA created an information packet that welcomes new residents and enables them to make use of all our community’s resources. The welcome wagon promotes neighborhood identity and contributes to social and economic and stability by developing relationships and encouraging use of neighborhood businesses.

How:

NENA developed a packet for distribution to new residents via block clubs and area Realtors. This packet includes: bus schedules; park program schedules; bike routes; voter registration cards; NENA’s calendar of events; and lists of merchants, churches, schools, and elected officials. Quick implementation of this project was tangible evidence that NRP dollars are at work in the community.

Partners: Agencies with informational materials, local businesses

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$1,000

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$2,000

1999 \$1,000

2000

2001 \$1,000

2002

2003

Contract Manager: Office of Public Affairs changed to NRP

Implementation Status: Contracted/Complete

Full Plan: This strategy was a successful First Step project. Based on it’s success, NENA has decided to continue this strategy in the full plan. Much of the materials for the packet were collected during the First Step project. Many businesses have agreed to participate and will provide materials for the packets. NRP funds will be used to produce additional packets and cover the material costs associated with putting them together.

**GOAL #5: PROVIDE A “LIFE-CYCLE” OF HOUSING
 OPTIONS**

■ **OBJECTIVE #1: RETAIN GROWING FAMILIES**

- **Strategy #1: CREATE GENERIC ARCHITECTURAL PLANS
 FOR RENOVATION AND EXPANSION
 (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Many of the houses in Nokomis East are too small for a growing family. We will provide renovation and expansion plans to lower the cost of, and thus encourage, renovation – particularly the expansion of a house through an addition. The purpose of this project is to help growing families stay in the neighborhood. It will also adapt to the trend for larger homes.

How:

NRP funds will pay for renovation/expansion plans for the post-World War II “tract” style house that is prevalent in the community. These homes were built in the 1940s as temporary housing for military families living near the air force base. Non-military families are now living in these homes and require more room. Architectural plans for other common styles will be created, budget permitting. The Housing Task Force has met with an architectural and engineering firm that quoted a price of \$300 per existing plan. NENA will also make available the Longfellow Neighborhood Association’s architectural plans for the “bungalow” style house.

Partners: Architect to be selected

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$1,000

Contract Manager: City Planning Department

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

- **Strategy #2:** **ASSISTED LIVING OPPORTUNITIES
(FULL PLAN)**

What:

A task force of residents from Nokomis East, and possibly surrounding neighborhoods, will investigate increasing assisted/supportive living opportunities in the greater Nokomis East area. NRP funds will be used to encourage the desired development.

How:

NENA will assist in the creation and administration of a citizen committee on assisted/supportive living. The committee will research options and make development recommendations. The committee will seek out a suitable developer to provide the planning and construction for the project, and assist in finding a suitable site manager. NRP funds will be used as incentive or "gap" funding to ensure the desired resources are built.

Partners: MCDA, private developers

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$50,000

1999

2000

2001 \$50,000

2002

2003

Contract Manager: MCDA

GOAL #6:	INCREASE AND MAINTAIN HOMEOWNERSHIP
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- **OBJECTIVE #1:** **PROVIDE RESOURCES TO HELP PERSPECTIVE BUYERS ACHIEVE HOMEOWNERSHIP AND GUIDE HOMEOWNERS IN DO-IT-YOURSELF PROJECTS**

- **Strategy #1:** **COMPILE HOUSING INFORMATION
RESOURCES FOR PUBLIC USE (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA provided the Nokomis Library with funds to provide easily accessible information on home ownership, maintenance, repair, and upgrading.

How:

NRP funds covered the purchase and assembly of housing information. Residents are able to go to the library to view contractor evaluations, do-it-yourself manuals, sound insulation eligibility maps, and a library of loan sources and housing codes. Information is also be available on the Re-Use Center and local tool lending libraries. The NENA office is flooded with calls for this type of information. Residents are unable to obtain this information themselves or from the Public Library. Efforts will be made to create a one-stop-shop for housing information before our home improvement funds are dispersed.

Partners: NENA Housing Task Force

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$1,000

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$3,490

1999 \$3,490

2000

2001

2002

2003

Contract Manager: NRP/First Step----Library/Full NAP

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Completed
Resource Center located at Nokomis Library

Full Plan: This project was a successful partnership with the library in the First Step and has been used by many neighborhood residents. NENA will provide funding to the library to purchase and make publicly available up-to-date books, videos, and CD-ROMs, etc. on the issue of home purchasing, building, repair, and renovation. The library staff will provide an annual list of resources purchased. NENA will monitor library reports. Standish Erickson has a similar program at the Roosevelt Library.

ENVIRONMENT

FIRST STEP STRATEGIES

Total: \$138,060

Identify Solutions to Improve Lake Nokomis Water Quality (\$9,000)

Create and Distribute Environmental Brochure (\$6,570)

Fund Storm Sewer Stenciling Program (\$270)

Promote Environmental Stewardship (\$1,620)

Develop Native Plant Lakescape at Lake Nokomis (\$102,600)

Sponsor Neighborhood Tree Planting (\$9,000)

Create Community Garden (\$4,500)

Study Transportation Issues (\$4,500)

NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN STRATEGIES

Total \$280,000

Establish the Blue Water Commission (\$40,000)

Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Reduction (\$70,000)

Southeast Nokomis Pond Vegetation (\$15,000)

Fund the Native Plantscape at Lake Nokomis (\$85,000)

Fund a Neighborhood Tree Planting Program (\$70,000)

■ OVERVIEW

Nokomis East boasts a unique blend of urban living bordered by the natural park settings of Lake Nokomis and Minnehaha Creek. As the community grows we will seek to balance the needs of our commercial and residential population with the needs of a healthy ecosystem featuring a variety of plants, animals, water bodies and land features.

Neighbors were asked to prioritize the objectives of our First Step Plan at a NENA Town Meeting in June 1996. Of all the votes cast by 221 residents, the top environmental objective was to reduce the amount of harmful substances going into surface water. Again, in the July 1998 Full Plan project survey, the highest rated project was Lake Nokomis Water Quality Improvements. We take this as a strong mandate to improve water quality, both by ecological re-engineering and by encouraging environmental stewardship.

The Environmental Task Force has worked closely with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District and with Jeff Lee, a water quality expert with the Minneapolis Park Board. Five of the following water quality improvement strategies directly address the recommendations of local water quality experts.

GOAL#1:	TO PROTECT AND IMPROVE SURFACE WATER QUALITY
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■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** **TO REDUCE THE AMOUNT OF HARMFUL SUBSTANCES GOING INTO SURFACE WATER**

• **Strategy #1:** **STUDY AND IDENTIFY SOLUTIONS TO IMPROVE LAKE NOKOMIS WATER QUALITY (FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)**

What:

Complete a comprehensive study of Lake Nokomis water quality problems and possible solutions. Cooperate with adjoining neighborhoods to recommend options for clean-up.

How:

Nokomis East contributed \$9,000 toward a water quality study with an estimated cost of \$100,000 - \$200,000. The Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD) performed a \$200,000 study to determine current water quality in Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha. Our study was combined with MCWD's study, effectively speeding up the time frame for corrective action.

Nokomis coordinated with interested parties to define the scope of the study. NENA helped to select a committee consisting of residents from Nokomis East, Hale/Page/Diamond Lake, Standish Ericsson, and other neighborhoods; and representatives of MCWD, Minneapolis Park Board, City of Minneapolis, City of Richfield, Metropolitan Airports Commission, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Metropolitan Council, etc. The committee selected engineering/technical assistance to research problems, identify solutions and make recommendations. The committee evaluated this information and made its recommendation as the *Blue Water Commission*. The report is currently available at the NENA, SENA, or HPDL offices.

Partners: Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, Minneapolis Park Board, Hale/Page/Diamond Lake Neighborhood Assn., Standish Ericsson Neighborhood Assn.

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$9,000

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$40,000

1999 \$25,000

2000 \$15,000

2001

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources: MCWD committed as the primary funder of this study. The City of Minneapolis and the Park Board has been asked to fund the portion of this study that addresses their jurisdictions.

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Park Board

First Step Implementation Status: Contracted/Completed

Full Plan: The First Step Plan strategy was successfully completed by the group organized to conduct the planning activities in this strategy. The group is named the *Blue Water Commission*. Recommendation ten of the Blue Water Commission report is to “identify or create an entity to champion the goals and recommendations of the Blue Water Commission”. The full plan continuation of this strategy will concentrate on the creation of a new organization for this purpose.

Specifically, NRP funds will provide funds to pay a consultant to provide staff support to the commission, and help to launch the organization by writing grant applications for the additional funds needed to implement the recommendations from the study. Hale Page Diamond Lake, and Standish Ericcson neighborhoods will participate on this commission along with other individuals as deemed necessary by the residents participating on this commission.

The general mission is to reduce algae blooms, increase water clarity and generally improve the quality of the lakes environment, make the lakes more desirable for recreation and increase property values.

• **Strategy #2: CREATE AND DISTRIBUTE ENVIRONMENTAL BROCHURE (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA created and distributed an environmental brochure to teach residents to change behaviors that damage the water quality of Lake Nokomis, Minnehaha Creek and the Mississippi River. The purpose of this education process is to improve our surface water quality, as well as swimming and fishing.

How:

NENA customized a Clean Water Partnership brochure that has been successful in the “Chain of Lakes” neighborhoods. This brochure has been used to encourage responsible lawn care in order to reduce phosphorous runoff which pollutes surface water. NENA printed 7,000 brochures for distribution at meetings, door-to-door, and by mail. NRP funds covered artwork, printing, postage, and other methods of distribution.

Partners: Clean Water Partnership for copyright
Cevette & Company for artwork

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$6,570

Contract Manager: NRP

Implementation Status: Contracted/Completed

• **Strategy #3: FUND STORM SEWER STENCILING PROGRAM
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA modeled a SENA storm sewer stenciling program that involved painting curbsides near storm sewers to identify the body of water that receives direct runoff from that drain. This public awareness program will discourage dumping of harmful substances that drain into and pollute our surface water.

How:

NRP funds covered paint, customized stencils, advertising, and a celebration to draw volunteers. Volunteers were recruited from Boy Scout troops, schools, and churches. There are several hundred storm sewer catch basins leading into Lake Nokomis and Minnehaha Creek. 135 storm sewer drains were stenciled. Stenciling will need to be done annually as the paint wears away. Stenciling will begin again in Spring of 1999. The Environmental Task Force worked with Jill Hurst, Volunteer Coordinator for the Stenciling Program through the League of Women Voters, to coordinate this effort in conjunction with Minneapolis Public Works and the Minneapolis Park Board.

Partners: Jill Hurst, Volunteer Coordinator for Stenciling Program,
Minneapolis Public Works, Minneapolis Park Board

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$270

Contract Manager: NRP

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

• **Strategy #4: PROMOTE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA is increasing public awareness of water quality issues by procuring and distributing environmental education articles from the Minneapolis Park Board, the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, and other organizations, writers and newspapers.

How:

NRP funds permitted the expansion of the *NENA Review* newsletter to include a "green page" featuring environmental education articles. These articles highlighted impact homeowners have on water quality; e.g., household chemicals, lawn and garden refuse, leaf disposal, fertilizers. During the First Step Plan, there will be five issues of the newsletter.

Partners: Minneapolis Park Board
Minnehaha Creek Watershed District

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$1,620

Contract Manager: NRP

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

• **Strategy #5: NONPOINT SOURCE WATER POLLUTION
REDUCTION (FULL PLAN)**

What:

In the continuing effort to protect and improve surface water quality of the lakes and creek, reduce the amount of harmful substances going into surface water, reduce algae blooms, and increase water clarity, NENA will educate residents about how their actions effect water quality, and how to change their actions based on recommendations in "Blue Water Commission Report and Recommendations for the Management of Lake Nokomis and Lake Hiawatha, May 1998."

How:

NENA will provide education and outreach and develop a program to subsidize resident's use of alternative products such as phosphorus free fertilizer, compost bins, mulching lawn mowers and native plant alternatives to mowed grass, which will reduce the amount of pollutants in and quantity of storm water runoff.

Partners: Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD),
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB),
Hale Page Diamond Lake, Standish Erickson.

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$70,000

1999 \$14,000

2000 \$14,000

2001 \$14,000

2002 \$14,000

2003 \$14,000

Contract Manager: Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

• **Strategy #6:**

**SOUTHEAST LAKE NOKOMIS POND
VEGETATION (FULL PLAN)**

What:

In the continuing effort to improve water quality at Lake Nokomis, reduce algae blooms, and increase sustainable development awareness, NENA will furnish and/or install various plant systems at the location of the Southeast Nokomis Storm Water Pond.

How:

Nokomis East will coordinate with the MPRB, and MCWD to participate in this project. The MPRB will coordinate the project and the MCWD will construct the water pond in the Wenonah neighborhood. NENA and the MPRB will review plans prior to pond construction. NRP funds will be used to provide various plant systems.

Partners:

Minnehaha Creek Watershed District (MCWD),
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board (MPRB),
NENA Residents

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$15,000

1999

2000 \$15,000

2001

2002

2003

Contract Manager:

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board

GOAL #2:	TO IMPROVE AND INCREASE PARKS AND OTHER PUBLIC GREEN SPACES
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- **OBJECTIVE #1:** **INCREASE VARIETY OF NATIVE PLANTS**
- **OBJECTIVE #2:** **REHABILITATE NATURAL HABITATS FOR
WILDLIFE**
- **OBJECTIVE #3:** **INCREASE UNDERSTANDING OF ECOSYSTEM
MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION**

• **Strategy #1:**

**DEVELOP NATIVE PLANT LAKESCAPE AT
LAKE NOKOMIS (FIRST STEP/FULL PLAN)**

What:

NENA and the Mpls. Park Board are landscaping the area that connects the shoreline of Lake Nokomis to the Nokomis Community Center. This hillside site is a popular overlook that will be enhanced by benches and informational signs about the project. The lakescape will include a wet prairie, oak savanna and shoreline vegetation filters that reduce the amount of harmful substances entering the lake. This will provide a natural habitat for wildlife and strengthen our ecosystem. Native plant conversion will reduce park maintenance costs and unsightly un-mowed grassland.

How:

NENA partnered with the Minneapolis Park Board which committed funding towards the prairie conversion component. Jeff Lee, water quality expert with the Park Board, has been working with us to expand the prairie conversion into a lakescape. The Environmental Task Force worked with the Park Board to select a landscape architect/contractor and resources. A lakescape plan was developed by the landscape architect/contractor in consultation with the Park Board. NENA engaged public interest and input in Master Plan development with a series of community meetings held with the Park Board and the landscape architect. Landscape Alternatives donated plantings for the Boulevard Prairie Garden. NENA developed a core of volunteers to maintain the gardens and distribute information. Ground preparation and planting began on the hillside and for the three prairie gardens in the Spring of 1998 and was completed in the Summer of 1998.

Partners:

Minneapolis Park Board Prairie Conversion Program
Landscape Architect/Contractor to be selected

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$102,600

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$85,000

1999 \$85,000

2000

2001

2002

2003

Leveraged Resources:

Minneapolis Park Board will fund prairie conversion.
NENA will apply for DNR Conservation Partnership Grant
and DNR Community Environmental Partnership Grant of
\$10,000.

Contract Manager:

Minneapolis Park Board

Implementation Status:

Contracted/Completed

Full Plan: The Lake Nokomis Naturescape project implemented during the First Step phase is visible. Landscaped hill at 50th St., native plantings, identification signs and educational brochures are available for everyone to see. This portion of the project has been nominated for a 1998 CUE award. The project in the full NAP will complete the Naturescape plan with a natural shoreline including aquatic, wet prairie and upland native vegetation. This area will be from 50th St. (along 30 feet of shoreline) to the parking lot below the Nokomis Community Center. Providing natural habitats, increasing plant and animal diversity, improving water quality, beautifying the area, educating the public and enlisting community involvement/ownership are all part of this project.

NENA will begin with a study of how to best Lakescape with the communities recreational use and safety issues considered. A public outreach program will be developed to inform, educate, interest and gain input from the public to the project. NENA will seek technical assistance from the Dept. of Natural Resources, Minnehaha Creek Watershed District, U of M, and the Blue Water Commission. NENA will seek implementation assistance from community youth groups, schools, master gardeners, and Nokomis area residents.

NENA will develop a concept plan with MPRB, seek grants, use the concepts of the DNR's "Lakescaping for Wildlife", and perpetuate interest with a display at the Nokomis Community Center. Planting will be done according to land elevation and with a vegetative buffer strip.

• **Strategy #2: SPONSOR NEIGHBORHOOD TREE PLANTING
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

Employ youth to plant trees on city-owned boulevards bordering public spaces and create a homeowner tree education program.

How:

Keewaydin School/Park was transformed into an "urban forest" with children planting 72 new trees. As the site of the 1998 City of Minneapolis Arbor Day Celebration, this event showcased the neighborhood. With the help of a \$10,000 MnReLeaf grant, plantings were also done at Bossen field and will be done at Wenonah School. NRP funds also provided \$4,500 for a homeowner tree education program. NRP funds were used to sponsor lessons in tree planting, tree care, and energy conservation. Homeowners will care for trees planted on their private property and on city-owned property. NENA worked with the Tree Trust and Minnesota Green to reach residents for involvement and implementation. The Park Board did an inventory of trees and made planting recommendations to NENA.

Partners: Tree Trust, Minnesota Green, Minneapolis Park Board

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$9,000

Contract Manager: \$4,500/Minneapolis Park Board--\$4,500/NRP

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

• **Strategy #3: NOKOMIS AREA TREE REPLACEMENT
PROGRAM (FULL PLAN)**

What:

The summer storms of 1998 toppled hundreds of trees in the Nokomis neighborhoods. This project will use funds to plant trees, provide educational opportunities on tree care, and secure on-going tree maintenance. Coordination efforts will be sought from the Minneapolis Park Board, Department of Natural Resources Foresters, Minneapolis Park Board Foresters, church and school groups.

How:

NENA will identify people to do training, identify dates and locations for training, advertise program, identify sites for tree planting, identify types of trees, recruit volunteers to assist with planting, develop maintenance plan for trees, and identify resources for discounts in purchasing trees.

Partners: Mpls. Park and Recreation Board Forestry Division, Dept. of Natural Resources, MN. Releaf, MN Tree Trust

NRP Resources Full NAP: \$70,000

1999 \$35,000

2000 \$17,500

2001 \$17,500

2002

2003

Contract Manager: Mpls. Park and Recreation Board

- **OBJECTIVE #4:** CREATE COMMUNITY GARDEN SPACE
- **Strategy #1:** CREATE A COMMUNITY FLOWER AND VEGETABLE GARDEN (FIRST STEP)

What:

NENA is improving public green space with plots to grow flowers and vegetables. Gardens provide beauty and food. This opportunity will particularly benefit renters who do not have garden space.

How:

NENA will lease one acre of land on 56th Street between 21st and 22nd Avenues from the Metropolitan Airports Commission. Once we obtain the land, NENA will organize potential gardeners and develop a vision and maintenance plan. NENA will partner with Urban Lands to start and maintain the garden space. Our membership with Minnesota Green will make us eligible to receive donated plants, seeds, and tools.

NRP funds were used to cover the land lease, liability insurance, water access, soil tests, and purchase/delivery expenses for black dirt, compost and wood chips.

Partners: Urban Lands, Minnesota Green, MAC (?)

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$4,500

Leveraged Resources: Plants, seeds and tools from Minnesota Green

Contract Manager: NRP

Implementation Status: Contracted/Complete - The MAC rejected the plan to lease the land on 56th street. The funds were used to place grow labs in the Morris Park and Wenonah Community Schools. Children grew flowers and vegetables and transplanted them into neighborhood gardens.

GOAL #3:	TO MINIMIZE NEGATIVE TRANSPORTATION IMPACTS
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■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** **ENCOURAGE ALTERNATIVES TO AUTOMOBILE USE**

• **Strategy #1:** **STUDY TRANSPORTATION ISSUES (FIRST STEP)**

What:

Study and identify ways to reduce automobile use by making the use of mass transit, carpools, and commuter bicycling more appealing. Residents will ultimately benefit from reduced air pollution caused by auto emissions.

How:

Completed an inventory of local pedestrian and bicycle facilities, wheel chair access, mass transit, automobile movement, and parking. The full scope of this study was determined by citizen input. A transportation consultant was hired to conduct the study and identify solutions. Recommended planning actions will be mailed to 7,000 Nokomis East residents.

Partners: Transportation Consultant
MCTO, Public Works

NRP Resources First Step:

1997 \$4,500

Contract Managers: Minneapolis Public Works

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

FIRST STEP STRATEGIES

Total: \$243,900

Make Shopper-Friendly Commercial District Improvements (\$56,700)

Establish Economic Development Commission (\$54,000)

Create Small Business Loan Program (\$79,200)

Fund Marketing/Public Relations Program for Businesses (\$54,000)

FULL PLAN STRATEGIES

Total: \$308,104

Shopper Friendly Commercial Areas (\$308,104)

■ OVERVIEW

Nokomis East's shopping district at 34th Avenue and 50th Street was identified as one of the strongest neighborhood commercial areas in the "Market Study of Neighborhood Commercial Areas and Nodes" commissioned by the City of Minneapolis. Our commercial area is successful because it is a full service neighborhood retail center that serves a large population with limited nearby competition. "Nokomis Village" does not attract much business from outside the neighborhood.

Nokomis Village is home to Jubilee Foods, Nokomis Hardware, Norwest Bank, Firststar Bank, Nokomis Shoe Shop, Nokomis Public Library, a US Post Office, four restaurants, four medical services, and a variety of other businesses and services. Business also thrives in other "commercial pockets" throughout the neighborhood. We have identified 126 storefront and home-based businesses within our borders. Despite this diverse inventory, some residents feel that they must leave the neighborhood to find some of the goods and services they need. We have limited space zoned for commercial purposes – approximately 100,000 square feet with few vacancies.

We are proud of our local business association, the Nokomis Village Association, which promotes a sense of community through celebrations.

GOAL #1:	CREATE A COMMUNITY WHERE RESIDENTS' NEEDS FOR GOODS AND SERVICES ARE MET
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■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** **ENHANCE A THRIVING BUSINESS COMMUNITY**

• **Strategy #1:** **MAKE SHOPPER-FRIENDLY COMMERCIAL DISTRICT IMPROVEMENTS (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA brought residents and business owners together to explore needs and design options for commercial area revitalization. The first phase of this project will include installation of benches, planters, trash receptacles and bicycle racks. More convenience in shopping areas will especially benefit seniors (33% of residents are over age 55). It will also reduce automobile use by encouraging shoppers to walk and bicycle.

How:

NENA hired SRF consultants to design a comprehensive streetscape. The Economic Development Task Force worked with the Nokomis Village Business Association, Minneapolis Public Works, and the MCDA as partners in selecting a consultant through a Request for Proposals (RFP) process. NENA will work with business owners to set up a "special service district" to fund on-going maintenance of the streetscape, using property-based assessments. We will also enlist the help of the Nokomis Garden Club, the Environmental Task Force, and local youth groups for annual plantings.

Partners:

Minneapolis Public Works, Nokomis Village Business Association, MCDA, Nokomis Garden Club, Environmental Task Force, local youth groups

NRP Resources First Step:

1997

\$56,700

Phase I

\$29,700

Consultant

\$27,000

Leveraged Resources:

Will apply for MCDA Neighborhood Commercial Strategic Planning Pilot Program which offers 3 to 1 match for planning dollars, increasing funds available for implementation by \$15,000.

Contract Manager:

City Planning Department changed to NRP

Implementation Status:

Contracted/In-Progress

- **Strategy 1A.**

**SHOPPER FRIENDLY COMMERCIAL AREAS.
COORDINATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF
RESULTS OF FIRST STEP STREETScape AND
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STUDY RESULTS
(FULL PLAN)**

What:

Provide funding to Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) to implement streetscape and economic development study recommendations including marketing, promotion and administration costs of coordinating efforts with the business community and evaluation of the same.

How:

The Economic Development Advisory Committee will work with SRF, Mpls. Planning Department, Public Works Department, and the Nokomis Village Business Association to assist coordination and implementation of Streetscape improvements. With the information gathered by the Streetscape and Economic Development consultants, EDAC will promote set-up of a Special Services District and marketing to stimulate proactive involvement in LRT, Hiawatha and Metro Transit bus routing as well as business retention and expansion endeavors.

Upon completion of the Streetscape and Economic Development studies, EDAC will design a loan and grant program to effectively leverage private and public funds to implement the plans including but not limited to:

- streetscape improvements
- traffic changes
- marketing of the neighborhood
- formation of a Special Services District
- Business retention and expansion
- administration of these programs

Loans and Grants would be used specifically to stimulate private sector participation. A 25% match by commercial districts for initial improvements and 100% of ongoing maintenance through a Special Services District.

Partners:

MCDA, Minneapolis Planning Department, Public Works, Nokomis Village Business Association, local business owners, Local Banks

NRP Resource Full NAP: \$308,104

<i>1999</i>	\$ 50,000
<i>2000</i>	\$175,000
<i>2001</i>	\$ 58,104
<i>2002</i>	\$ 15,000
<i>2003</i>	\$ 10,000

Contract Manager: NRP, Public Works, Planning Department, MCDA

• **Strategy #2:**

**ESTABLISH ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA established an economic development advisory committee to ensure that residents' needs for goods and services are met and to increase economic opportunities for residents by recruiting new businesses, opening dialogue between merchants and residents, and leveraging money.

How:

A Director of Economic Development will be hired to administer our NRP small business loans and the Economic Development Advisory Committee will approve loans. Inspiration for the advisory committee came from the Powderhorn Neighborhood Association's involvement in the Lake Street Task Force. Similarly, the advisory committee will help recruit businesses that provide goods and services that residents feel are missing. This will involve a public relations campaign to sell potential tenants on the neighborhood. The advisory committee is made up of 7 members: 4 residents who are not business owners, 2 neighborhood business owners, and one person from outside the neighborhood who offers special expertise. Advisors will be elected at the annual NENA meeting. NRP funds will be used to hire development staff/consultant(s), for rental of office space and equipment, and other administrative expenses of the committee. The Economic Development Task Force will solicit area businesses to donate or offer low-rent office space.

Partners:

Nokomis Village Business Association

NRP Resources:

1997

\$54,000 (First Step)

Leveraged Resources:

Possible donation of office space

Contract Manager:

NRP

Implementation Status:

Contracted/In-Progress

GOAL #2:	REVITALIZE THE COMMERCIAL DISTRICTS
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■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** **CREATE A STRONG AND VITAL BUSINESS DISTRICT**

• **Strategy #1:** **CREATE SMALL BUSINESS LOAN PROGRAM (FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA is providing low-interest loans to home-based businesses and storefront retail and service businesses. Attractive interest rates will provide an incentive to borrow. These loans will also provide generous debt-to-income and loan-to-value ratios. Funds can be used for reducing blight, improving facades, exterior signs, and business expansion. The purpose of this project is to strengthen area businesses so that they may better serve Nokomis East customers.

How:

Funds were divided into two loan pools:

Storefront Retail and Service Businesses (\$64,800)

Maximum Loan: \$8,000

Interest Rate: 8% fixed

Match: \$.50 for every \$1.00 borrowed

Term: repayment of \$2,000 per year

Home-based Businesses (\$14,400)

Maximum Loan: \$4,000

Interest Rate: 8% fixed

Match: \$.50 for every \$1.00 borrowed

Term: no longer than 30 months to repay

Partners: Neighborhood Banks, MCDA

NRP Resources:

1997	\$79,200	
	Pool #1	\$64,800
	Pool #2	\$14,400

Leveraged Resources: \$39,600 from borrowers' match

Contract Manager: MCDA

Implementation Status: Contracted/In-Progress

GOAL #3:	PRESERVE AND PROMOTE THE HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL SIGNIFICANCE OF NOKOMIS EAST
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■ **OBJECTIVE #1:** **USE HISTORY, ART, AND CULTURE AS
ECONOMIC GENERATORS**

• **Strategy #1:** **FUND MARKETING / PUBLIC RELATIONS
PROGRAM FOR AREA BUSINESSES
(FIRST STEP)**

What:

NENA is developing a promotional campaign to increase awareness of the goods and services available at local businesses. The purpose of this marketing program is to make Nokomis Village a destination shopping area by emphasizing our community's identity and historical roots. Increased customer flow translates into thriving businesses that are able to meet their customers' needs.

How:

The Nokomis Village Business Association has distributed an impressive directory and individual businesses have successfully used direct mail. We will capitalize on these efforts by working with local businesses to create a promotional brochure with a historical emphasis. We are working with local business owners to select the most viable options for marketing and promotion of our commercial nodes. NRP funds will cover designing, printing, and repeated distribution of promotional materials. This may also include signs to identify commercial nodes. A web-site is also being developed.

Partners: Nokomis Village Business Association

NRP Resources:

1997 \$54,000 (First Step)

Leveraged Resources: Possible match from businesses

Contract Manager: Office of Public Affairs

Implementation Status: \$25,000 Contracted/In-Progress
\$29,000 not contracted

IMPLEMENTATION ADMINISTRATION

FIRST STEP

\$136,533

FULL NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN

\$301,884

**Nokomis East Neighborhood Association
First Step Administration Budget
5/1/97 - 12/31/98**

1	General Administrative Budget	as of 5/1/97
2	Executive Director Salary	\$52,500
3	Planning Coordinator	\$25,000
4	Health Care	\$4,200
5	Unemployment Comp @ 3%	\$2,450
6	FICA @ 7.65%	\$6,167
7	Operating Expenses	\$19,998
8	Communications	\$10,000
9	Purchased Services	* \$16,218
	TOTAL	\$136,533

* **Plan Modification #4** - dated July 20, 1998 moved \$3,465 from the Staff and Office Support strategy (page 47) to a central NRP audit fund used to finance neighborhood audit services provided by the Office of the State Auditor.

**NOKOMIS EAST
NRP FULL NEIGHBORHOOD ACTION PLAN
ADMINISTRATIVE BUDGET**

	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	TOTAL
Implementation Coordinator						
Salary	\$ 28,840	\$ 29,706	\$ 30,597	\$ 31,516	\$ 32,461	\$ 153,120
Health Care	\$ 1,344	\$ 1,344	\$ 1,344	\$ 1,344	\$ 1,344	\$ 6,720
Unemployment Comp @3%	\$ 906	\$ 932	\$ 959	\$ 986	\$ 1,015	\$ 4,798
FICA @ 7.65%	\$ 2,310	\$ 2,376	\$ 2,444	\$ 2,514	\$ 2,587	\$ 12,231
Operating Expenses						
Office Rent	\$ 6,240	\$ 6,552	\$ 6,888	\$ 7,236	\$ 7,608	\$ 34,524
Liability Insurance	\$ 1,050	\$ 1,103	\$ 1,159	\$ 1,217	\$ 1,278	\$ 5,807
Workers Comp Insurance	\$ 288	\$ 303	\$ 319	\$ 335	\$ 352	\$ 1,597
Telephone	\$ 1,896	\$ 1,992	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,208	\$ 2,328	\$ 10,524
Office Supplies	\$ 1,896	\$ 1,992	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,208	\$ 2,328	\$ 10,524
Copier Maintenance	\$ 2,136	\$ 2,244	\$ 2,364	\$ 2,484	\$ 2,616	\$ 11,844
Postage Stamps	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,872	\$ 1,872	\$ 9,360
Computer Printer	\$ 1,000		\$ 3,000			\$ 4,000
Purchased Services						
Accounting	\$ 4,900	\$ 5,145	\$ 5,403	\$ 5,674	\$ 5,958	\$ 27,080
Miscellaneous	\$ 1,951	\$ 1,951	\$ 1,951	\$ 1,951	\$ 1,951	\$ 9,755
TOTAL ANNUAL EXPENSES	\$ 56,629	\$ 57,512	\$ 62,500	\$ 61,545	\$ 63,698	\$ 301,884

10% Plan Total = \$301,884.